



St Helena Government

HE the Governor
Hon. Cyril George
Hon. Lawson Henry
Hon. Ian Rummery
Hon. Christine Scipio-O'Dean
Chief Secretary
Financial Secretary
Ag. Attorney General
Deputy Chief Secretary

Ref: AA 2/52/10/1

Date: 14/10/2013

Your Excellency and Honourable Members,

Request for Amendment to the Development Consent Granted for the Airport Project in respect of Rupert's Wharf, the Sea Rescue Facility and Rupert's Pipeline

I refer to Section 8 of the Airport Development Ordinance.

Governor-in-Council granted Development Consent for the Airport Project in September 2008. The Consent was based upon reference designs; it was accepted that the reference designs could be subject to variation as part of the Design, Build and Operate (DBO) Contract with Basil Read.

Rupert's Wharf was included under the DBO Contract as a provisional item, pending detailed design and costings. Detailed design work has now taken place and, as a result, it is recommended that the Wharf be relocated from the middle of Rupert's Bay (as shown in the reference design) to the south-west of the Bay. This in turn has implications for the location of the Sea Rescue Facility and Rupert's Pipeline; the designs for these components of the Airport Project have been amended accordingly.

Governor-in-Council is therefore requested to amend the Development Consent granted previously to reflect the revised designs for Rupert's Wharf, the Sea Rescue Facility and Rupert's Pipeline. To aid Members consideration of the matter, I enclose:

1. **A development application in respect of the above.** Please note that whilst we have completed the standard application form, this is not a new application but a request to amend designs that had previously been granted approval.

2. **The Preliminary Design Report for Rupert's Wharf.** This report contains the technical appraisal of the project to date. Final designs are currently under preparation. Pending the final designs, minor variations may still be necessary to the preliminary designs presented here but there are processes in place to manage this under the DBO Contract.
3. **The Addendum to the Environmental Statement for the Airport Project in respect of Rupert's Wharf.** This sets out the Environmental Impact Assessment for Rupert's Wharf.
4. **A Planning Statement.** I hope that you will find this a useful summary document of the key points from the Preliminary Design Report and the Addendum to the Environmental Statement.

As per Section 8 of the Airport Development Ordinance, Governor-in-Council may consult with the Land Development Control Authority to aid consideration of planning matters related to the Airport Project. This request to amend the Development Consent for the Airport Project is therefore also being circulated to the Authority for consideration. Agreement has also been reached that there will be a period of public consultation between 18th October and 15th November. During this period we will follow up on previous consultation and stakeholder discussions with a series of articles and public meetings. Copies of the documentation attached will be placed in the Public Library, Tourist Office, ANRD Reception and Access Office.

A recommendation from the Land Development Control Authority is expected in early December. I respectfully request Executive Council to meet to consider the matter as soon as possible thereafter. I would very much appreciate your support in this matter in order to meet commitments to Basil Read. A decision on whether to proceed with construction of Rupert's Wharf needs to be conveyed to Basil Read by 31st December 2013. If Development Consent is granted for the revised designs, Basil Read will need to commence works on site in early January 2014 so that the bulk of the construction of the Wharf is completed prior to the rough sea period.

It is important to note that the Airport Project includes provision only for construction of Rupert's Wharf. This remains unchanged from the original Development Consent granted in September 2008. During the design phase in 2008, the St Helena Government gave commitments that if construction of Rupert's Wharf went ahead, SHG would put in place the port facilities needed for the Wharf to operate. David Taylor is currently leading work to prepare a Development Plan for Rupert's which will address wider development in Rupert's, including arrangements for Wharf operations.

Finally, improved sea access has always been a priority for St Helena. This is needed to complement and support the development taking place under the Airport Project and also to facilitate wider economic development initiatives on St Helena. Rupert's Wharf will provide a number of benefits from the provision of a docking facility for freight at Rupert's Bay. This in turn will free up Jamestown Wharf for alternative leisure and tourism uses in support of what is expected to be a rapidly growing tourist industry. I therefore trust that Members will

view the revised designs for Rupert's Wharf favourably and grant amendment to the original Development Consent in order for works to proceed.

Yours faithfully,

Janet Lawrence
Airport Project Director
Air Access Office

cc:	John Styles	Chair, Land Development Control Authority
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cc by email:	Deon de Jager	Basil Read, Island Director
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