RNTPC Paper No. A/NE-TK/680B For Consideration by the Rural and New Town Planning <u>Committee on 8.1.2021</u>

<u>APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION</u> <u>UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE</u>

APPLICATION NO. A/NE-TK/680 (for 3rd Deferment)

<u>Applicant</u>	Mr. NGAI Hok Ming
<u>Site</u>	Lot 637 S.A in D.D. 23, Po Sam Pai Village, Tai Po, New Territories
<u>Site Area</u>	About 400 m ²
Land Status	Block Government Lease (demised for agricultural use)
<u>Plan</u>	Approved Ting Kok Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) No. S/NE-TK/19
Zoning	"Agriculture" ("AGR")
Application	Proposed Public Utility Installation (Solar Energy System)

1. Background

- 1.1 On 6.2.2020, the applicant submitted a planning application for a proposed installation of solar energy system at the application site (the Site) (**Plan A-1**).
- 1.2 On 26.5.2020 and 15.9.2020, the Rural and New Town Planning Committee (the Committee) of the Town Planning Board (the Board) agreed to defer making a decision on the application for two months each time, as requested by the applicant, to allow time for preparation of further information (FI) to address departmental comments. Upon receipt of the applicant's FI on 19.11.2020, the application is scheduled for consideration by the Committee on 8.1.2021.

2. <u>Request for Deferment</u>

On 29.12.2020, the applicant wrote to the Secretary of the Board and requested the Board to further defer the consideration of the application for two months in order to allow time to prepare FI to address the comments of Drainage Services Department (DSD) (**Appendix I**).

3. <u>Planning Department's Views</u>

3.1 The application has been deferred twice for a total of four months at the request of the

applicant to allow more time to address the departmental comments. Since the last deferment on 15.9.2020, the applicant, on 19.11.2020, has provided responses to address comments from relevant departments. Nevertheless, the applicant needs more time to prepare FI to address further comments from DSD.

- 3.2 The Planning Department <u>has no objection</u> to the request for deferment as the justification for deferment meets the criteria for deferment as set out in the Town Planning Board Guidelines on Deferment of Decision on Representations, Comments, Further Representations and Applications made under the Town Planning Ordinance (TPB PG-No. 33) in that the applicant needs more time to prepare FI in response to departmental comments, the deferment period is not indefinite, and the deferment would not affect the interests of other relevant parties.
- 3.3 Should the Committee agree to defer making a decision on the application, the application will be submitted to the Committee for consideration within two months upon receipt of further submission from the applicant. If the FI submitted by the applicant is not substantial and can be processed within a shorter time, the application could be submitted to an earlier meeting for the Committee's consideration. The applicant should be advised that the Committee has allowed further two months for preparation of FI submission. Since it is the third deferment of the application, the applicant should be advised that the Board has allowed a total of six months for preparation of FI submission, and no further deferment would be granted unless under very special circumstances.

4. Decision Sought

The Committee is invited to consider whether or not to accede to the applicant's request for deferment. If the request is not acceded to, the application will be submitted to the Committee for consideration at the next meeting.

5. <u>Attachments</u>

Appendix I	Email dated 29.12.2020 from the applicant
Plan A-1	Location Plan

PLANNING DEPARTMENT January 2021