

**Town Planning Board Guidelines for
Application for Open Storage and Port Back-up Uses**
(TPB PG-No.13E)

1. On 17.10.2008, the Town Planning Board Guidelines for Application for Open Storage and Port Back-up Uses under Section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance (TPB PG-No. 13E) were promulgated, which set out the following criteria for the various categories of area:
 - (a) Category 1 areas: favourable consideration will normally be given to applications within these areas, subject to no major adverse departmental comments and local objections, or the concerns of the departments and local residents can be addressed through the implementation of approval conditions. Technical assessments should be submitted if the proposed uses may cause significant environmental and traffic concerns;
 - (b) Category 2 areas: planning permission could be granted on a temporary basis up to a maximum period of 3 years, subject to no adverse departmental comments and local objections, or the concerns of the departments and local residents can be addressed through the implementation of approval conditions. Technical assessments, where appropriate, should be submitted to demonstrate that the proposed uses would not have adverse drainage, traffic, visual, landscaping and environmental impacts on the surrounding areas;
 - (c) Category 3 areas: applications would normally not be favourably considered unless the applications are on sites with previous planning approvals. Sympathetic consideration may be given if the applicants have demonstrated genuine efforts in compliance with approval conditions of the previous planning applications and included in the fresh applications relevant technical assessments/proposals to demonstrate that the proposed uses would not generate adverse drainage, traffic, visual, landscaping and environmental impacts on the surrounding areas. Planning permission could be granted on a temporary basis up to a maximum period of 3 years, subject to no adverse departmental comments and local objections, or the concerns of the departments and local residents can be addressed through the implementation of approval conditions; and
 - (d) Category 4 areas: applications would normally be rejected except under exceptional circumstances. For applications on sites with previous planning approvals, and subject to no adverse departmental comments and local objections, sympathetic consideration may be given if the applicants have demonstrated genuine efforts in compliance with approval conditions of the previous planning applications and included in the applications relevant technical assessments/proposals to demonstrate that the proposed uses would not generate adverse drainage, traffic, visual, landscaping and environmental impacts on the surrounding areas. The intention is however to encourage the phasing out of such non-conforming uses as early as possible. A maximum period of 2 years may be allowed upon renewal of planning permission for an applicant to identify suitable sites for relocation. No further renewal of approval will be given unless under very exceptional circumstances and each application for renewal of approval will be assessed on its individual merit.

2. In assessing applications for open storage and port back-up uses, the other major relevant assessment criteria are also summarized as follows:
- (a) there will be a general presumption against development on sites of less than 1,000 m² for open storage uses and 2,000 m² for port back-up uses in rural areas, other than sites located in major corridors, industrial/godown/workshop areas, quarrying activities or where it is demonstrated that optimum use is made of the site. This is to prevent the further proliferation of small sites in rural areas, minimizing sprawl over countryside areas and reducing travel trips;
 - (b) port back-up sites and those types of open storage uses generating adverse noise, air pollution and visual intrusion and frequent heavy vehicle traffic should not be located adjacent to sensitive receivers such as residential dwellings, hospitals, schools and other community facilities;
 - (c) port back-up uses are major generators of traffic, with container trailer/tractor parks generating the highest traffic per unit area. In general, port back-up sites should have good access to the strategic road network, or be accessed by means of purpose built roads;
 - (d) adequate screening of the sites through landscaping and/or fencing should be provided where sites are located adjacent to public roads or are visible from surrounding residential areas;
 - (e) there is a general presumption against conversion of agricultural land and fish ponds to other uses on an ad hoc basis, particularly in flood prone areas or sites which would obstruct natural drainage channels and overland flow; and
 - (f) for applications involving sites with previous planning approvals, should there be no evidence to demonstrate that the applicants have made any genuine effort to comply with the approval conditions of the previous planning applications, planning permission may be refused, or a shorter compliance period for the approval conditions may be imposed, notwithstanding other criteria set out in the Guidelines are complied with.

Previous s.16 Application covering the Application Site

Approved Applications

	<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Zoning(s) and OZP at the time of consideration</u>	<u>Applied Use(s)/ Development(s)</u>	<u>Date of Consideration (RNTPC/TPB)</u>	<u>Approval Conditions</u>
1.	A/YL-HT/228	“CDA” on approved Ha Tsuen OZP No. S/YL-HT/4	Temporary Open Storage of Vehicles and Spare Parts (3 years)	7.12.2001	3, 4, 6, 7, 8
2.	A/YL-HT/395	“CDA” on approved Ha Tsuen OZP No. S/YL-HT/6	Temporary Open Storage of Construction Machinery and Material (3 years)	24.6.2005	1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
3.	A/YL-HT/551	“CDA” on approved Ha Tsuen OZP No. S/YL-HT/9	Temporary Open Storage of Construction Machinery and Material (3 years)	20.6.2008 (revoked on 20.3.2009)	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 13, 15
4.	A/YL-HT/628	“CDA” on approved Ha Tsuen OZP No. S/YL-HT/10	Temporary Open Storage of Scrap Metal and Plastic (3 Years)	10.7.2009 (1 year)	1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 12, 14, 16, 17
5.	A/YL-HT/660	“CDA” on approved Ha Tsuen OZP No. S/YL-HT/10	Temporary Open Storage of Scrap Metal and Plastic (3 Years)	29.1.2010 (1 year)	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 14, 16, 17
6.	A/YL-HT/708	“CDA” on approved Ha Tsuen OZP No. S/YL-HT/10	Temporary Open Storage of Scrap Metal and Plastic (3 Years)	28.1.2011	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 14, 16, 17
7.	A/YL-HT/877	“CDA” on approved Ha Tsuen OZP No. S/YL-HT/10	Renewal of Planning Approval for Temporary Open Storage of Scrap Metal and Plastic (3 Years)	17.1.2014	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 12, 14, 16, 19, 20, 21
8.	A/YL-HT/1063	“CDA” on approved Ha Tsuen OZP No. S/YL-HT/10	Temporary Open Storage of Scrap Metal and Plastic (3 Years)	3.2.2017	1, 2, 3, 10, 12, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22

Approval Conditions:

1. No night-time operation.
2. No operation on sundays and public holidays.
3. The submission and implementation of tree preservation and/or landscape proposals.
4. The submission of drainage proposal and/or the provision of drainage facilities/the implementation of the accepted drainage proposal.
5. The provision of a 9-litres water type/3 kg dry powder fire extinguisher.
6. The submission and provision of environmental mitigation measures proposals.
7. Revocation clauses.
8. Reinstatement clause.
9. The stacking height of the construction materials stored within 5m of the periphery of the site and should not exceed the height of the boundary fence.
10. The submission and implementation of a run-in/run-out proposal.
11. Maintenance of the screen planting on the site.
12. The submission of a condition record of the existing drainage facilities and the maintenance of drainage facilities on the site.
13. The setting back of the site boundary to avoid encroaching upon the public works project limit.

14. No cutting, dismantling, melting, cleansing, repairing and other workshop activity.
15. No open storage of materials other than construction machineries and materials.
16. No handling (including loading, unloading and storage) of used car batteries.
17. Provision of fencing.
18. Submission and implementation of fire services installation.
19. No vehicle queuing is allowed back to public road or vehicle reversing onto/from the public road is allowed.
20. Maintenance of existing drainage facilities.
21. Maintenance of fencing.
22. Provision of fire extinguisher and submission of a valid fire certificate (FS251).

**Similar s.16 applications within the same “O” zone
on the approved Hung Shui Kiu and Ha Tsuen Outline Zoning Plan**

Approved Applications

	<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Zoning(s) and OZP at the time of consideration</u>	<u>Applied Use(s)/ Development(s)</u>	<u>Date of Consideration (RNTPC/TPB)</u>	<u>Approval Condition(s)</u>
1.	A/YL-HT/588	“CDA” and “V” on approved Ha Tsuen OZP No. S/YL-HT/10	Renewal of Planning Approval for Temporary Open Storage of Marble under Application No. A/YL-HT/472 (2 Years)	9.1.2009 (2 Years)	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14
2.	A/YL-HT/657	“CDA” on approved Ha Tsuen OZP No. S/YL-HT/10	Temporary Open Storage of Construction Material and Metal Ware (3 Years)	18.12.2009 (3 Years)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 13
3.	A/YL-HT/711	“CDA” and “V” on approved Ha Tsuen OZP No. S/YL-HT/10	Proposed Temporary Open Storage of Recycled Materials (including Metal, Paper & Plastics Goods) (3 Years)	28.1.2011 (3 Years)	1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 14, 18, 19, 20
4.	A/YL-HT/833	“CDA” and “V” on approved Ha Tsuen OZP No. S/YL-HT/10	Temporary Open Storage of Private Car and Ancillary Inspection Centre (3 Years)	25.1.2013 (3 Years)	1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 15, 17, 20, 21, 22
5.	A/YL-HT/999	“CDA” and “V” on approved Ha Tsuen OZP No. S/YL-HT/10	Temporary Open Storage of Scrap Metal and Plastic (3 Years)	22.1.2016 (3 Years)	1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 17, 20, 21
6.	A/HSK/127	“O” and “V” on approved Ha Tsuen OZP No. S/YL-HT/10	Temporary Open Storage of Private Car and Ancillary Inspection Centre (3 Years)	1.2.2019 (3 Years)	2, 4, 6, 7, 15, 16, 17, 18

Approval Condition(s):

- 1 The submission and/or implementation of landscaping and/or tree preservation proposals, and/or provision of replacement planting and/or the replacement of dead trees.
- 2 The submission of DIA/drainage proposals and/or provision of drainage facilities, and/or submission of a condition record of the existing drainage facilities.
- 3 Reinstatement clause.
- 4 The submission/implementation of FSIs proposals and/or provision of FSIs, with or without sprinkler system.
- 5 Revocation clause.
- 6 No night-time operation and/or no operation on Sundays and public holidays.
- 7 Maintenance of the landscape planting/existing trees/vegetation.
- 8 Maintenance of the existing drainage facilities.
- 9 No cutting, dismantling, repairing, cleansing, and/or melting, and/or compaction, and/or unpacking, and/or re-packing, and/or vehicle repair, stripping, dismantling, assembling, cutting, cleansing, dismantling works, repair workshop and/or container repair, cleansing and workshop activity.
- 10 The submission and implementation of run-in/run-out proposal(s).
- 11 The stacking height of the materials/goods stored shall not exceed the height of the boundary fence/2.5m/5m.
- 12 The construction of an intercept channel at the entrance to prevent run-off flowing out from the site to

the nearby public roads and drains through the access point.

- 13 No container vehicle including container trailer and tractor is allowed to be parked/stored.
- 14 No goods vehicle exceeding 5/5.5 tonnes is allowed for the operation of the site.
- 15 No vehicle queuing is allowed back to public road or vehicle reversing onto/from the public road is allowed.
- 16 Maintenance of fencing.
- 17 Provision of fire extinguisher and submission of a valid fire certificate (FS251).
- 18 Stacking height of materials stored within the site should not exceed the height of the boundary fence.
- 19 no handling (including loading, unloading, dismantling and storage) of electrical/electronic appliances, computers/computer parts, cathode-ray tubes (CRT), CRT computer monitors/television sets and CRT equipment.
- 20 The submission and implementation of a run-in/run-out proposal.
- 21 Only private cars are allowed to enter/ be parked on the site.
- 22 No encroachment upon the simplified temporary land allocation no. GLA-TYL 1657 granted to the Drainage Services Department for the construction of Lau Fau Shan trunk sewerage and drainage.

消防處發出之露天貯存用地良好作業指引

Good Practice Guidelines for Open Storage issued by the Director of Fire Services

		消防車輛 內部通道 Internal Access for Fire Appliances	地段界線 (淨闊度) Lot Boundaries (Clear Width)	貯存物品 地點與 臨時構築物 之間的距離 Distance between Storage Cluster and Temporary Structure	貯存物品 地點的大小 Cluster Size	貯存高度 Storage Height
1.	露天貯存貨櫃 Open Storage of Containers		2 米 2m	4.5 米 4.5m		
2.	露天貯存非易燃物品 或有限數量的易燃物品 Open Storage of Non-Combustibles or Limited Combustibles	4.5 米 4.5m	2 米 2m	4.5 米 4.5m		
3.	露天貯存易燃物品 Open Storage of Combustibles	4.5 米 4.5m	2 米 2m	4.5 米 4.5m	40 米乘 40 米 40m x 40m	3 米 3m

備註：露天貯存用地／回收場內不得吸煙或使用明火。

Remarks: Smoking and naked flame activities shall not be allowed within the open storage/recycling site.

Advisory clauses

- (a) to resolve any land issues relating to the development with the concerned owner(s) of the Site;
- (b) to note that the Site might be resumed at any time during the planning approval period for implementation of government projects;
- (c) to note the comments of the District Lands Officer/Yuen Long, Lands Department (DLO/YL, LandsD) that the Site comprises Old Schedule Agricultural Lots held under the Block Government Lease which contains the restriction that no structures are allowed to be erected without the prior approval of the Government. The private lots which are covered by Short Term Waivers (STWs) is listed below:

Lot No. in D.D.129	STW No.	Purpose
2939 RP	2257	Ancillary Use to Open Storage of Scrap Metal and Plastic
2950 RP	2368	Vehicle Repair Workshop

The STW holder(s) will need to apply to his office for modification of the STW conditions where appropriate. The owner(s) of the lot without STW will need to apply to his office to permit the structures to be erected or to regularize any irregularity on site, if any. Besides, given the proposed use is temporary in nature, only application for regularisation or erection of temporary structure(s) will be considered. No construction of New Territories Exempted Building(s) will be considered or allowed. Applications for any of the above will be considered by the LandsD acting in the capacity of the landlord or lessor at its sole discretion and there is no guarantee that such application will be approved. If such application is approved, it will be subject to such terms and conditions, including among others the payment of premium or fee, as may be imposed by the LandsD. The Site is accessible from Lau Fau Shan Road through Government Land (GL). His office provides no maintenance works to the GL involved and does not guarantee any right-of-way to the Site;

- (d) to note the comments of the Assistant Commissioner for Transport/ New Territories, Transport Department (AC for T/NT, TD) that sufficient manoeuvring spaces shall be provided within the Site. No vehicle is allowed to queue back to public roads or reverse onto/from public roads;
- (e) to note the comments of the Chief Highway Engineer/New Territories West, Highways Department (CHE/NTW, HyD) that adequate drainage measures should be provided at the site access to prevent surface water flowing from the Site to nearby public roads/drain. HyD shall not be responsible for the maintenance of any access connecting the Site and Lau Fau Shan Road;
- (f) to follow the latest "Code of Practice on Handling the Environmental Aspects of Temporary Uses and Open Storage Sites" issued by the Environmental Protection Department to minimize any potential environmental nuisance;
- (g) to note the comments of the Chief Engineer/Mainland North, Drainage Services Department (CE/MN, DSD) that the required condition record submission should include coloured photos showing the current condition of the drainage facilities and a layout plan indicating the locations of the photos taken. The submitted photos should cover all internal surface channels, catch pits, sand traps, manholes, terminal catch pits/manholes and the downstream discharge path as indicated on the submitted drainage proposal;

- (h) to note the comments of the Chief Building Surveyor/New Territories West, Buildings Department (BD) that there is no record of approval by the Building Authority (BA) for the structures existing at the Site. If the existing structures (not being a New Territories Exempted Houses) are erected on leased land without approval of the BA, they are unauthorized building works (UBW) under the Buildings Ordinance (BO) and should not be designated for any approved use under the application. For UBW erected on leased land, enforcement action may be taken by the BD to effect their removal in accordance with BD's enforcement policy against UBW as and when necessary. The granting of any planning approval should not be construed as an acceptance of any existing building works or UBW on the site under the BO. Before any new building works (including containers/open sheds as temporary buildings, demolition and land filling) are to be carried out on the site, prior approval and consent of the BD should be obtained, otherwise they are UBW. An Authorized Person (AP) should be appointed as the coordinator for the proposed building works in accordance with the BO. The Site shall be provided with means of obtaining access thereto from a street and emergency vehicular access in accordance with Regulations 5 and 41D of the Building (Planning) Regulations (B(P)R) respectively. The Site does not abut on a specified street of not less than 4.5m wide and its permitted development intensity shall be determined under Regulation 19(3) of the B(P)R at the building plan submission stage;
- (i) to note comments of the Director of Fire Services (D of FS) that in consideration of the design/nature of the proposal, fire service Installations (FSIs) are anticipated to be required. Therefore, the applicant is advised to submit relevant layout plans incorporated with the proposed FSIs to Fire Services Department (FSD) for approval. The layout plans should be drawn to scale and depicted with dimensions and nature of occupancy. The location of where the proposed FSIs are to be installed should be clearly marked on the layout plans. The applicant should adhere to "Good Practice Guidelines for Open Storage" at **Appendix V**. The applicant is also advised to submit a valid fire certificate (FS251) to Fire Services Department (FSD) for approval. The applicant is reminded that if the proposed structure(s) is required to comply with the Buildings Ordinance (Cap. 123), detailed fire service requirements will be formulated upon receipt of formal submission of general building plans; and
- (j) to note the comments of the Project Manager (West), Civil Engineering and Development Department (PM/W, CEDD) that the Site falls within the boundary of HSK/HT NDA. According to the Planning and Engineering Study (P&E Study) for the HSK/HT NDA and the latest plan, to ensure timely and orderly implementation, the development of HSK/HT NDA and relevant site formation and infrastructure works would be implemented in five stages, viz. Advance Works and Stage 1 to Stage 4. The lot(s) concerned falls within a site under Stage 4 Works in the latest programme of the HSK/HT NDA. While the detailed implementation programme for the project is still being formulated, it is envisaged that clearance of the Site in question will not be arranged before the first population intake of the HSK/HT NDA expected in 2024.