

Damage of components of Air Purification System at Middle Ventilation Building of Central – Wan Chai Bypass and Island Eastern Corridor Link

The Highways Department (HyD) said today (July 1) that as reported by the engineering consultant of Central – Wan Chai Bypass and Island Eastern Corridor Link (CWB) in the evening of June 28, fan blades of a ventilation fan of the air purification system (APS) at the Middle Ventilation Building (MVB) of the CWB were damaged. For the sake of safety, the operation of the APS at the MVB has been partially suspended for investigation. According to the air quality monitoring data, the incident does not affect the air quality inside the CWB tunnel.

Upon learning of the incident, the HyD immediately commenced an investigation. The engineering consultant carried out a preliminary inspection of the remaining 32 ventilation fans at the three ventilation buildings in the early morning of June 30. The inspection result revealed no abnormality. The HyD has instructed the engineering consultant and the contractor to investigate the cause of the incident as soon as possible and carry out a comprehensive inspection of all fans at the three ventilation buildings to further ensure that all fans are functioning properly.

The HyD has grave concerns on the recurrence of abnormal ventilation fan damage at the CWB, and will appoint an independent expert to carry out a comprehensive review on the design, construction and supervision of the entire ventilation system. The HyD will follow up stringently to investigate the cause of the incident and the related liability issues. In case the cause and liability issues of the incident are ascertained in the investigation, the government will seriously follow up with relevant parties regarding the losses caused by the incident.