

Engineer employed by construction contractor of Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase 1 tests positive for COVID-19

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) said today (January 18) that an engineer employed by the construction contractor of Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase 1 has tested positive for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) on January 17.

The engineer concerned works at the reclamation site off Shek Kwu Chau and is responsible for handling the delivery and installation of pre-cast concrete seawall structures. He is required to measure his body temperature before working and wear a mask during work. He has not travelled outside Hong Kong recently. He tested negative during the COVID-19 testing for frontline staff and relevant personnel of works contractors arranged by the EPD on January 8.

The contractor immediately contacted the Centre for Health Protection (CHP). The working and activity areas of the engineer concerned have been thoroughly cleaned and sterilised. The contractor has also arranged virus testing for all relevant staff (including those of the subcontractors and the supervising officer's office) today. In addition, those who closely worked with the engineer concerned are not allowed to enter the relevant works areas before being notified of testing negative for COVID-19, so as to reduce the risk of the virus spreading.

The EPD will continue to maintain close liaison with the CHP on the epidemic and arrange regular COVID-19 testing for all relevant staff of the work. Staff have been reminded to pay attention to personal hygiene and to stay vigilant. They should seek medical advice as soon as possible if feeling unwell.