

Notice of the Office of the Leading Group for the Pilot Reform of the Construction Project Review and Approval System in Guangzhou on the Implementation of Government Purchase of Geotechnical Investigation Services for Simple and Low-Risk Construction Projects Led by Private Investment

To all parties concerned:

In order to continue optimizing the business environment in Guangzhou, further reduce the costs of simple and low-risk construction projects led by private investment, and further stimulate market vitality, pursuant to the *Notice Regarding the Issuance of the (Trial) Implementation Opinions on Further Optimizing the Review and Approval Services & Quality and Safety Supervision Model for Simple and Low-Risk Construction Projects Led by Private Investment* issued by the Office of the Leading Group for the Pilot Reform of the Construction Project Review and Approval System in Guangzhou (Sui Jian Gai [2020] No. 3; hereinafter referred to as the *Implementation Opinions*), and upon approval by the municipal government, relevant matters regarding the government purchase of geotechnical investigation services for simple and low-risk construction projects led by private investment in Guangzhou (hereinafter referred to as “simple and low-risk construction projects”) are hereby notified as follows:

1. Simple and low-risk construction projects led by private investment refer to: new ordinary warehouses and workshops that are financed wholly or primarily by private enterprises, foreign enterprises, or Hong Kong, Macao, or Taiwan enterprises, and that have, for any individual building within the boundaries of the lot, a constructed area of less than 2,500 square meters, a building height of no more than 24 meters, an annual comprehensive energy consumption below 1,000 metric tons of coal equivalent, a single function and simple technical requirements, and which do not produce, store or use inflammable, volatile, toxic, harmful or dangerous goods.

2. The municipal government has already released such geological data as the Notifications on Geological Information and Hazards Prevention, the Notification Lists, floor plans, borehole logs, and sectional drawings for the 686 industrial blocks in Guangzhou. All parties concerned may download these documents based on the location of the relevant project to serve as references for the selection of project sites, planning, and design. For more details, please refer to the *Notice on the Public Issuance of the Guangzhou Industrial Block Geological Information and Geological Hazards Prevention and Control Notification and User Instructions* (http://www.gz.gov.cn/xw/tzgg/content/post_5749942.html) issued by the Guangzhou Municipal Planning and Natural Resources Bureau.

3. With respect to new industrial lots to be transferred (including those within the above-mentioned 686 industrial blocks where geological data have not reached the depth for initial surveys), municipal and district land reserve departments should complete initial geotechnical investigations before transferring such land (specific requirements: boreholes should be laid out per a 50 x 50 meter grid; in principle, each project should have no less than three boreholes, which should penetrate soft soil to reach the hard-plastic soil layer; no less than three boreholes should reach the strongly weathered rock layer). The geotechnical

investigation report, as part of the site inventory, should be provided to the land recipient upon transfer. In particular, with respect to existing simple and low-risk construction projects in industrial blocks with pre-determined schematic designs at the point of land transfer, geotechnical investigations in the corresponding locations should meet depth requirements regarding detailed surveys.

4. Where the above-mentioned Notifications on Geological Information and Prevention and Control of Geological Hazards, the Notification Schedules, floor plans, borehole logs, and sectional drawings, or the depth of geological data from the initial geotechnical investigation does not meet the design requirements for a simple and low-risk construction project, or a geotechnical investigation has not been carried out for such project on a transferred lot, the Municipal Housing and Urban-Rural Development Bureau will launch detailed geotechnical investigation work through government purchase of services. Relevant outcomes will be provided to the project developer within 10 calendar days.

5. After the issuance of these *Implementation Opinions*, if a project developer has already engaged a third party to conduct a geotechnical investigation for a simple and low-risk construction project, the project developer may apply for a refund of relevant costs from the Municipal Housing and Urban-Rural Development Bureau based on relevant documents, including the geotechnical investigation report and the contract.

6. This Notice shall come into effect from August 3, 2020 for a trial period of one year. The terms of this Notice will be evaluated and revised after the end of the trial period or during the period in accordance with the actual situation (if there are no policy changes, respective district housing and urban-rural development authorities shall apply for funds from district finance authorities to cover the costs of detailed geotechnical investigations from the year following the trial period).

The points above are hereby notified.

Office of the Leading Group for the Pilot Reform of the Construction Project Review
and Approval System in Guangzhou

August 3, 2020