

Selected Report of SEC Meeting held on June 24, 2020

Stakeholder Engagement Committee is a community consultative body set by DCA (Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority)

This report is to illustrate the management of RTM (Reusable Tunnel Material) during the construction of the Single Tunnel in case it gets the go ahead.

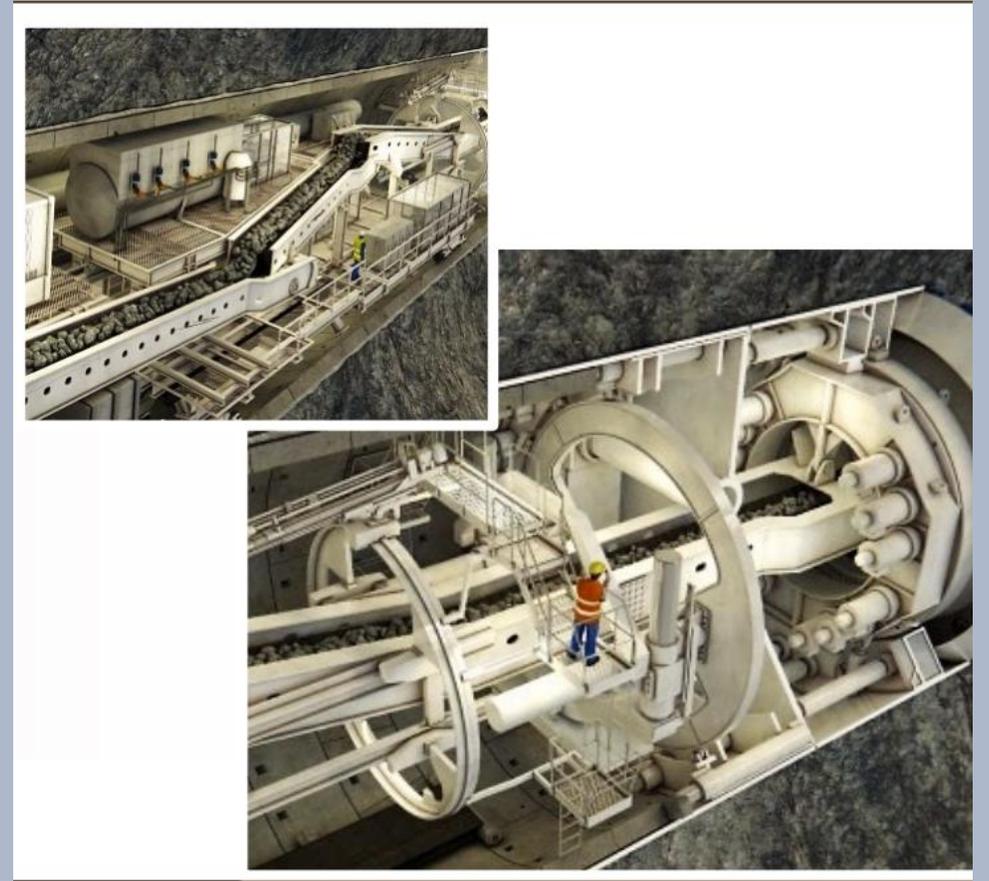
By Douglas Hsia

A member of SEC



At the early stage of the SEC meeting, the members refused to accept the term RTM (Reusable tunnel material). We called it muck because we believed the soil being generated from the tunnel boring operations would only be a liability. It would be a monumental task to transport them out of the Delta, too much truck footprints.

At the June 24th meeting, DCA pointed out that 6 to 15 million cubic yards of soil will be generated yet the tunnel project will require 20 million cubic yard of soil fill at various project sites for various project features. The RTM generated will not be enough for the project's own use.



This may be good news, but the SEC members are still pressing for more information. Subject matter of toxicity in the soil, DTSC (Department of Toxic Substance Control) under CalEPA and other agencies will be brought in to monitor. SEC members queried that even some of the substance either does not exceed the standard threshold or at the level of natural occurrence, it still does not mean it is healthy to the public. For example arsenic in the rivers of the Central Valley at the natural occurrence level is always a problem. The DCA agreed with this issue and assured further studies will be carried out.

At the same time, more studies on the health safety issue of the conditioner will be carried out. The conditioner is a formula that they put into the RTM to make it more workable for the geotechnical requirement of the various project sites.

If the reader would like more details on this subject, please visit DCA website

<https://www.dcdca.org/index.htm>