

21<sup>st</sup> May 2007

**Sindh Environmental Protection Agency**

EPA Complex, ST-2/1, Sector-23,  
Korangi Industrial Area  
Karachi  
Ph: 506-5950, 506-5637

Att: Mr Naeem Ahmed Mughal  
Deputy Director (EIA)

Dear Sirs,

Re: **Karachi Elevated Expressway**  
Response to CDGK's reply to Shehri's objections/comments

We refer to your letter dated 23-4-2007 forwarding the reply received from the project proponent, CDGK, and comment as follows:

- 1) The CDGK's reply is inadequate, shallow, deceptive (see para-4 of *Annexure-D*) and does not properly address the concerns and points raised by us. No annexures referred to were attached. We especially need copies of the following important documents:
  - a) Halcrow's recent transport/traffic study of Karachi
  - b) CDGK/IJM's financial feasibility report
- 2) The **first priority of the CDGK** must be to implement an affordable, comprehensive, and environment-friendly public transport system in Karachi: an extended Circular Railway scheme complemented by CNG buses.

This will radically reduce the proliferation of polluting, gas-guzzling, noisy, traffic-congesting cars that are coming out on the roads.

A cardinal principle for reducing congestion on roads and preventing adverse traffic impacts is: "*New roads should only be built after all reasonable alternatives for minimizing single-occupancy vehicle (i.e, cars) use have been exhausted*".

- 3) The **second priority of the CDGK** must be to introduce traffic discipline and operational improvements in existing traffic-handling systems and roads (see *Annexure-A*). This will benefit not only the Sharah-e-Faisal corridor --- but the entire city!
- 4) We suggest that the CDGK team accompanies the City Nazim to Bogota to meet with ex-Mayor Enrique Penalosa (see *Annexure-B*) to understand how traffic congestion issues were cleverly and far-sightedly addressed in that city --- without constructing additional roads and expressways!

- 5) The appalling visual impacts and environmental devastation of the KEE at two typical locations can be seen from the comparative photographs (see *Annexure-C*) of Sharah-e-Faisal and Club Road prepared by the Institute of Architects Pakistan.
- 6) Additional points have been listed in *Annexure-D*.

We shall be pleased to assist you and the Experts' Committee in any way you wish.

Sincerely,

**Mrs Amber Ali bhai**

General Secretary  
Shehri: CBE

encl: Annexures-A to -D

cc Federal Secretary, Environment  
Provincial Secretary, Environment  
DG, Pakistan EPA  
Nazim, CDGK