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(incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability) (Stock code: 1083)

FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING DISCLOSEABLE AND CONNECTED TRANSACTION ACQUISITION OF THE ENTIRE ISSUED SHARE CAPITAL OF THE TARGET COMPANY AND ASSIGNMENT OF THE SHAREHOLDER LOANS



The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited

(incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability) (Stock code: 3)

APPLICATION FOR WHITEWASH WAIVER

TCC and HK&CG(China) have agreed to vary certain terms of the Agreement. TCC and HK&CG(China) have agreed to adopt the Proposed Arrangements, pursuant to which Completion took place on 15 July 2010 notwithstanding that part of the Reorganisation involving the disposal of the Excluded Business have not been completed. The disposal or transfer out of the Excluded Business has become a post-completion obligation, and Holding Co 1 shall during the Relevant Period hold all interests in the Excluded Business on behalf of HK&CG(China).

Reference is made to the joint announcements of TCC and HKCG both dated 17 March 2010 and TCC's circular to its shareholders dated 7 April 2010 (**Circular**), in relation to the acquisition of the entire issued share capital of the Target Company, the assignment of the Shareholder Loans and the application for Whitewash Waiver. Terms used herein shall have the same meanings as those defined in the Circular unless the context requires otherwise.

The Supplemental Agreement and the Deed

Pursuant to the Agreement entered into between HK&CG(China) and TCC on 17 March 2010, Completion was conditional upon the satisfaction of the Conditions. This included, but not limited to, the completion of the Reorganisation, which entails, inter alias, Holding Co 1 transferring the Excluded Business (being a 10% interest in a PRC joint venture company in the business of mid-stream natural gas project (JV Co)) to another wholly-owned subsidiary of HK&CG(China) (HK&CG(China) Subsidiary) prior to Completion (the Transfer). Save for the completion of the Transfer being part of the Reorganisation (the Remaining Condition), the other Conditions had been fulfilled.

As the Transfer involves obtaining approvals from the relevant PRC government authorities and various filing and registration procedures, as well as consent of various joint venture parties of JV Co, it was expected that it may take considerable time before the Transfer can be completed.

Accordingly, following negotiations between HK&CG(China) and TCC, by a supplemental agreement entered into between them on 15 July 2010 (the **Supplemental Agreement**), the terms of the Agreement were varied such that :-

- (a) the Remaining Condition becomes a post-Completion obligation such that when the necessary consents and approvals in respect of the disposal and transfer out of the Excluded Business have been obtained from other joint venture parties and the relevant PRC government authorities, HK&CG(China) shall at its own costs and expenses take all necessary steps to procure the completion of the Transfer;
- (b) Holding Co 1 shall during the period as from Completion and for so long as Holding Co 1 is holding the interests in JV Co (being the Excluded Business) until such time when the Transfer is completed (the **Relevant Period**) hold all interests in the Excluded Business on behalf of HK&CG(China) Subsidiary pursuant to the arrangements as set out in a deed (the **Deed**) to be executed by Holding Co 1, HK&CG(China) Subsidiary and HK&CG(China) upon Completion (the **Proposed Arrangements**); and
- (c) HK&CG(China) undertakes to indemnify TCC (for itself and as trustee for the Target Group) of any loss, taxation, liabilities, obligations, costs and expenses which TCC and/or Holding Co 1 may incur or suffer as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Arrangements as detailed below (the HKCG Indemnity).

Pursuant to the Deed, Holding Co 1 will be holding all interests in the JV Co on behalf of HK&CG(China) Subsidiary during the Relevant Period as follows:

- (a) Holding Co 1 shall from time to time pay to HK&CG(China) Subsidiary all interests and benefits of and derived from the Excluded Business (including all dividends and other distributions received by it from the Excluded Business) during the Relevant Period and otherwise deal with such interests, benefits, dividends and other distributions in such manner as HK&CG(China) Subsidiary may direct;
- (b) Holding Co 1 shall exercise all voting rights and other powers of control attached to all its interest in JV Co in accordance with the directions of HK&CG(China) Subsidiary from time to time; and
- (c) Holding Co 1 shall hold, retain and deal with the Excluded Business in such manner as HK&CG(China) Subsidiary may from time to time direct.

Pursuant to the Deed, HK&CG(China) Subsidiary shall indemnify Holding Co 1 against, and be responsible and liable for, all debts, liabilities, taxes, obligations, costs and expenses imposed upon Holding Co 1 as the holder of all its interests in JV Co, and shall also indemnify Holding Co 1 against all actions, claims and proceedings which may be brought or threatened to be brought against it as the holder of interests in JV Co and/or as a result of or in connection with the performance by it of any of its obligations and roles under the Deed.

HK&CG(China) will under the Deed guarantee to Holding Co 1 the due and punctual performance and discharge by HK&CG(China) Subsidiary of all its obligations under the Deed.

No material variation of the Agreement

TCC and HK&CG(China) consider that the Proposed Arrangements do not constitute material variation to the terms of the Agreement and the transactions contemplated under the Agreement TCC further considers that the Proposed Arrangements are within the scope of the relevant resolutions passed by the independent shareholders of TCC on 29 April 2010. The main reason is that the implementation of the Proposed

Arrangements will place the parties in substantially the same post-completion position as if the Remaining Condition had been completed pursuant to the terms of the Agreement. CIMB Securities (HK) Limited, the independent financial adviser to the independent board committee of TCC concurs with this view and confirms that the Proposed Arrangements will not affect its opinion and recommendations as set out in the Circular. The independent board committee of TCC (formed for the purpose of considering the transactions contemplated under the Agreement) has confirmed that the Proposed Arrangements do not constitute material variation to the transactions contemplated under the Agreement.

No Listing Rules Implication

Since the Proposed Arrangements do not involve an acquisition or disposal of assets and, other than the HKCG Indemnity, do not involve any of the matters set out in Rule 14.04(1) or 14A.10(13)(b)-(k), the Proposed Arrangements (including the Supplemental Agreement and the Deed) will not be regarded as a "transaction" as defined in Chapters 14 and 14A. Hence, the Transfer (to be subsequently effected as and when the outstanding procedures are completed) will not be a "transaction" under Chapter 14 or 14A of the Listing Rules. The HKCG Indemnity constitutes an exempt connected transaction for TCC under Rule14A.65(4) because no security over the assets of TCC will be granted in respect of such indemnity.

By Order of the Board **Towngas China Company Limited** John HO Hon Ming *Executive Director and Company Secretary* By Order of the Board **The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited** Alfred CHAN Wing Kin *Managing Director*

Hong Kong, 15 July 2010

At the date of this announcement, the boards of directors of TCC and HKCG, respectively comprise:

Towngas China Company Limited

Executive Directors: Mr. Alfred CHAN Wing Kin (Chairman) Mr. Peter WONG Wai Yee (Chief Executive Officer) Mr. James KWAN Yuk Choi Mr. John HO Hon Ming Ms. Margaret LAW Wai Fun Mr. OU Yaping Mr. Francis TANG Yui Man (alternate director to Mr. OU Yaping)

Independent Non-executive Directors: Dr. CHOW Yei Ching Dr. Moses CHENG Mo Chi Mr. Brian David LI Man Bun

The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited

Non-executive Directors: Dr. The Hon. LEE Shau Kee (Chairman) Mr. Colin LAM Ko Yin Mr. LEE Ka Kit Mr. LEE Ka Shing

Independent Non-executive Directors: Mr. LEUNG Hay Man Dr. The Hon. David LI Kwok Po Professor POON Chung Kwong

Executive Directors: Mr. Alfred CHAN Wing Kin (Managing Director) Mr. James KWAN Yuk Choi

The directors of TCC jointly and severally accept full responsibility for the accuracy of the information (other than that in respect of HKCG, HK&CG(China) and persons acting in concert with it and the Target Group and opinions expressed by HKCG or its directors) in this announcement and confirm, having made all reasonable enquiries, that to the best of their knowledge, opinions expressed in this announcement (other than opinions expressed by HKCG or its directors) have been arrived at after due and careful consideration and there are no other facts (other than those relating to HK&CG(China), HKCG and the Target Group) not contained in this announcement the omission of which would make any statements in this announcement misleading.

The directors of HKCG jointly and severally accept full responsibility for the accuracy of the information (other than that in respect of TCC and opinions expressed by TCC or its directors) in this announcement and confirm, having made all reasonable enquiries, that to the best of their knowledge, opinions expressed in this announcement (other than opinions expressed by TCC or its directors) have been arrived at after due and careful consideration and there are no other facts (other than those relating to TCC) not contained in this announcement the omission of which would make any statements in this announcement misleading.