



Birding Beijing
Terry Townshend
birdingbeijing@gmail.com

Communications Department
Ref. No. MAS/nbb

Lausanne, 22 September 2015

RE: Beijing 2022 environmental concerns

Dear Terry Townshend,

Thank you for your recent correspondence to the International Olympic Committee's Press Office. We have duly noted your concerns, and hope you find the following information helpful.

As highlighted in the IOC's evaluation report, the Beijing 2022 alpine skiing and sliding venues will be adjacent to the Songshan National Nature Reserve. Because of this proximity, a number of environmental requirements will have to be taken into consideration by the Organising Committee during the Games detailed planning phase – as stipulated in the Host City Contract and its accompanying Detailed Obligations.

The Host City Contract (HCC) that Beijing signed on the day of its election clearly stipulates that: *"The City, the NOC and the OCOG undertake to carry out their obligations and activities under this Contract in a manner which embraces the concept of sustainable development, and which serves to promote the protection of the environment."* (point 21- 'Sustainability and Olympic Legacy').

In addition and as part of the implementation of Olympic Agenda 2020, the HCC now comes with a number of 'Detailed Obligations' which are public and available on our website. The document includes the essential requirements necessary for delivering a successful Olympic Games. Under the theme of 'Venues', there is a section dedicated to 'Protected natural areas and heritage features' which reads as follows: 'If a Bid City/ Host City/ OCOG proposes locating a venue, a facility, and/or infrastructure in or in close proximity to a protected natural and/or heritage area, a detailed assessment of environmental (flora, fauna, soil and water) and/or cultural heritage (landscape, amenity, built heritage, archaeology) constraints, potential impacts, risks and mitigation requirements must be undertaken'.

For reference, the full documentation is available at the following link: http://www.olympic.org/Documents/Host_city_elections/Host-City-Contract-Detailed-obligations-XXIV-Olympic-Winter-Games-2022.pdf.

We have received assurances from Beijing 2022 that the principles of the Olympic Charter and of the HCC will be respected in the context of the Games. You might want to contact

them directly to better understand their detailed plan and how they will ensure that all principles related to environment and sustainability are duly considered.

We thank you for taking the time to write to us.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Adams', written over a horizontal line.

Mark Adams
Spokesman's Services Director