

Circular Letter No.: 2021.170

- Issue Date: 13 May 2021
- Application: BEAM Plus NB Version 2.0
- Effective Date: 13 May 2021 [Voluntary Use of NB v2.0 (2021 Edition)] 3 January 2022 [Compulsory Use of NB v2.0 (2021 Edition)]

NB Version 2.0 Manual (2021 Edition)

- 1. This Technical Circular hereby announces the roll out of the updated version of the <u>NB v2.0 Manual</u> (2021 Edition).
- 2. The NB v2.0 (2021 Edition) aims to enhance the clarity and streamline the submittal requirements to facilitate the assessment through the Automated Assessment system (iBEAM).
- 3. The assessment of NB v2.0 Manual (2021 Edition) shall be submitted by means of e-Forms through iBEAM.
- 4. To facilitate a smooth migration, a grace period from <u>13 May 2021 to 31 December 2021</u> (the "Grace Period") with the following <u>transitional arrangements</u> will be implemented accordingly:
 - (a) New Registration / Registered Projects
 - (i) Projects will be allowed to opt for assessment under NB v2.0 (2019 Edition) using the previously issued submission templates (in Word format) or NB v2.0 (2021 Edition) through iBEAM during the Grace Period. Thereafter, only NB v2.0 (2021 Edition) with submission using iBEAM will be accepted for assessment.
 - (ii) Registered projects under NB v2.0 with Provisional Assessment (PA) or Final Assessment (FA) not yet commenced after the Grace Period (i.e. on or after 3 January 2022), the Applicant <u>MUST</u> adopt NB v2.0 (2021 Edition) for the assessment.
 - (b) On-going Projects
 - (i) For NB v2.0 projects with PA or FA commenced <u>before 3 January 2022</u>, the assessment of PA or FA will be conducted in accordance with the same edition used until completion of that particular stage of assessment.
 - (ii) For NB v2.0 projects with 1st stage PA completed and the subsequent assessment of 2nd stage PA not yet commenced after the Grace Period (i.e. <u>on or after 3 January 2022</u>), the Applicant <u>MUST</u> adopt NB v2.0 (2021 Edition) for the 2nd stage PA assessment.

(iii) For NB v2.0 projects with PA completed and FA not yet commenced after the Grace Period (i.e. on or after 3 January 2022), the FA shall be conducted in accordance with NB v2.0 (2021 Edition). Notwithstanding, for any assessment/ benchmarking criteria in NB v2.0 (2019 Edition) being approved in PA, the Applicant may either continue to adopt the same assessment/ benchmarking criteria or voluntarily adopt the updated assessment/ benchmarking criteria in NB v2.0 (2021 Edition) in FA. For the avoidance of doubt, the Applicant shall provide PA evidences (e.g. extract of the PA report, document submitted for assessment in PA, etc.) in subsequent assessments to support the intention of using the same assessment/ benchmarking criteria as in PA.

Ir SK Ho Chairperson of Standards Sub-committee