

Additional measures in the Policy Address to curb air pollution

Introduce legislation to mandate the installation of catalysts by long-idling pre-Euro heavy diesel vehicles

We completed by the end of last year a programme to retrofit long-idling pre-Euro heavy diesel vehicles with catalysts. About 95% of the eligible vehicles participated in it. We plan to make the installation of catalysts mandatory for long-idling pre-Euro heavy diesel vehicles from April 2007 onward. We are making preparations for legislative amendments and will consult Members in due course.

Consulting the stakeholders on a proposal in 2007 to strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) vehicles including the use of roadside remote sensing equipment and the use of dynamometers for emission testing

Petrol and LPG vehicles emit hydrocarbons and NO_x that contribute to the regional smog problem. If not properly maintained, emissions from an individual vehicle can increase by more than four times. Remote sensing technology can help identify on-road petrol and LPG vehicles emitting excessive emissions that are due for repair. Furthermore, similar to diesel vehicles, dynamometer-based emission tests are more effective in checking whether the excessive emission problems of these vehicles have been fixed. We will work out a proposal and consult relevant parties early next year on strengthening the control of emissions of petrol and LPG vehicles by these proven technologies.

Introducing a new statutory regulation to impose maximum limits on the VOC content of paints, printing inks and selected consumer products, with the limits to be enforced in phases from 2007 to 2010

We have to effectively control the emission of VOC in order to meet the emission reduction targets set for 2010 and improve air quality. We are drafting legislation to introduce limits on the contents of VOC in architectural paints, printing inks and selected consumer products. We

will introduce the regulation within this year, and start implementing the various control measures in phases by the end of next year.

Continuing to impose caps on the total emissions of power companies and requiring them to maximize the use of natural gas in power generation

We imposed the first emission cap on the Castle Peak Power Station upon its licence renewal on 1 August 2005. Subsequently, emission caps have also been imposed on Black Point Power Station and Lamma Power Station through renewal of their licences, in order to ensure that their emissions are kept to the practical minimum. We will progressively tighten the relevant caps to meet the 2010 emission reduction targets as agreed with the Guangdong Province in 2002.

To maximize the use of natural gas, HEC's first Combined Cycle Gas Turbine was connected to the grid in July 2006 and scheduled for formal commercial operation later this year. CLP has also started planning and EIA process for its proposed liquefied natural gas receiving facility, so as to arrange for new supply of natural gas.