

December 31, 2009

**Via Facsimile (2838 2155)**

WQO Review  
Environmental Protection Department  
Water Policy & Science Group

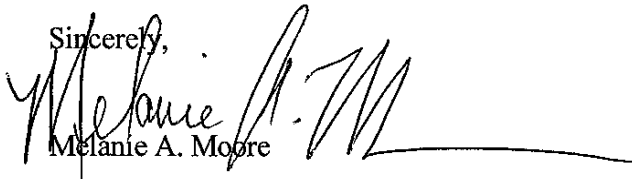
**Re: WQO Review**

WQO Review:

I welcome EPD's review of the WQO's in Hong Kong and agree that the existing WQO's developed in the 1980s are outdated and require review. Please proceed to review and update the WQOs by setting forth a clear timeframe for the review, update and implementation. In addition, please adopt international best practice, including introducing numerical WQOs for individual toxic substances. Afterwards, please adopt a timeframe for continuous review and updating of the revised WQOs in order to keep pace with the latest overseas trends in water quality management.

With respect to the beneficial uses and sensitive receivers set out in section 2, it is my view that water bodies with "less sensitive uses" such as navigation still require higher levels of protection in line with the more sensitive areas used for sanctuaries for the Chinese White Dolphin, and for mariculture and bathing beaches, as our marine waters are ultimately one, interconnected body of water. If we adopt less stringent WQOs for navigation areas, this ultimately means that we have adopted less stringent WQOs for the most sensitive areas given that there is no way to contain the various pollutants and effluent discharge.

Sincerely,

  
Melanie A. Moore