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Session No.: 19

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in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08**

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works
Session No.: 19**

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The estimated financial provision for nature conservation and management of country parks in 2007-08 is \$418.8 million. How much of it will be spent on animal protection studies and protecting Hong Kong's existing endangered species of animals and plants?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply :

In 2007-08, an estimated expenditure of \$16 million will be spent on ecological baseline surveys of wild animals; waterbird monitoring at Mai Po and Inner Deep Bay; field investigation and propagation of rare plants; protection of rare wild animals; management of the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar site; minor conservation projects and studies for the better management of the Ramsar Site; conservation of corals, marine mammals and biological monitoring in marine parks.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

MRS STELLA HUNG

Post Title:

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date:

16 March 2007

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Does the Government have any major tree planting schemes to be carried out in 2007-08? What are the details and expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) plans to organize the planting of 910 000 seedlings in country parks in 2007-08. The expenditure involved is estimated to be about \$9 million.

A serious hill fire broke out in Tai Lam Country Park in November 2006. The AFCD will carry out extensive tree planting in the Park to rehabilitate the damaged sites. Some 370 000 tree seedlings will be planted. Furthermore, 480 000 tree seedlings will be planted in other country parks such as Lantau, Sai Kung, Pat Sin Leng and Ma On Shan Country Parks. More than 60 000 seedlings will also be planted by the community under the Corporate Afforestation Scheme in various country parks.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

MRS STELLA HUNG

Post Title:

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date:

14 March 2007

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Does the Government have any plans to upgrade the existing fire prevention and fire break facilities in country parks? If yes, what are the details and expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

In 2007-08, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has plans to enhance fire prevention measures in country parks. The area of fire breaks will be doubled to 1.2 million square metres. The AFCD will maintain 20 fire fighting teams and ten fire lookouts at strategic locations to detect and fight hill fires during the dry season. Educational programmes and publicity activities on hill fire prevention will be strengthened through public announcements, production and distribution of leaflets, village visits, media briefing and press tours. The amount of expenditure involved in various duties, activities and facilities relating to hill fires in 2007-08 is estimated to be \$36 million.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

MRS STELLA HUNG

Post Title:

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date:

14 March 2007

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Please inform this Committee in detail of the provision for the proposed marine parks at Soko Islands and Southwest Lantau in the 2007-08 Estimates.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

In the year 2007-08, \$1 million would be provided for the patrol of the two areas of waters at Soko Islands and Southwest Lantau. During the patrols, information on the activities carried out in the waters will be collected to facilitate the formulation of future management plans for the two proposed marine parks.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

MRS STELLA HUNG

Post Title:

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date:

16 March 2007

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : In connection with the conservation and management of the Mai Po and Inner Deep Bay Ramsar site in 2007-08, please provide details on the measures, manpower and estimated expenditure for monitoring and assessing the situation and taking contingency measures in controlling the spread of H5N1 virus among resident and migratory birds in the Hong Kong Wetland Park. What are the changes to the provision and manpower for 2007-08 as compared with 2006-07?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply :

In 2006-07, the monitoring and control of the spread of avian influenza (AI) among resident and migratory birds in the Mai Po and Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site and the Hong Kong Wetland Park have been carried out daily through patrols by field staff detecting unusual death of birds and collecting faecal samples of birds for AI testing. In the first 11 months of 2006-07, there was no unusual death of birds and all (over 5,000 in number) faecal samples collected were tested negative for H5N1 virus.

In 2007-08, field staff will continue to be deployed to conduct daily patrols and collect faecal samples of birds in Mai Po and Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site and the Hong Kong Wetland Park for AI testing. The provision earmarked in 2007-08 for the work is \$0.32 million and the manpower involved is two Field Assistants, the same as in 2006-07.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

MRS STELLA HUNG

Post Title:

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date:

16 March 2007

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Regarding the indicator "endangered species licences/certificates", what is the basis for the reduction from 26 291 in 2006 to the estimated figure of 15 000 in 2007?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance, Cap. 586, which replaced the Animals and Plants (Protection of Endangered Species) Ordinance, Cap. 187, came into operation on 1 December 2006. Under the new Ordinance, the licensing requirements have been streamlined. A licence is no longer required for the import or possession or control of specimens of a scheduled species of pre-Convention origin or species that are listed under Appendix II of the Ordinance except live specimens of animals or plants of wild origin. Moreover, a licence will be issued on the basis of an individual shipment or keeping premises instead of an individual species, i.e., only one licence is required for a particular shipment or keeping premises even though there are more than one species in the shipment or keeping premises (under the repealed Cap. 187, each species would need a separate licence). The streamlined licensing requirements will result in the reduction of number of licences to be issued by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

MRS STELLA HUNG

Post Title:

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date:

16 March 2007

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Regarding the indicator "endangered species inspections", what is the basis for the increase from 15 444 in 2006 to the estimated figure of 20 000 in 2007?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance, Cap. 586, which replaced the Animals and Plants (Protection of Endangered Species) Ordinance, Cap. 187, came into operation on 1 December 2006. Under the new Ordinance, the licensing requirements have been streamlined. A licence is no longer required for the possession or control of specimens of a scheduled species of pre-Convention origin or species that are listed under Appendix II of the Ordinance except live specimens of animals or plants of wild origin. Inspection to shops and other outlets of endangered species will thus be stepped up to maintain the deterrent effect on any illegal activities.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

Post Title:

Date:

MRS STELLA HUNG

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

16 March 2007

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2007-08, it is mentioned that the Department will be engaged in the monitoring and auditing of ecological mitigation measures as a consequence of development projects. What are the details of these measures? How effective were the relevant measures carried out in 2006-07? What are the amounts of resources and manpower to be deployed in 2007-08?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

Over ten environmental monitoring and auditing (EM&A) programme of development projects which involved major ecological mitigation measures were monitored by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in 2006, such as Improvement to Tung Chung Road, West Rail, Spur Line, Yuen Long Bypass Floodway, Deep Bay Link and Shenzhen Western Corridor. The AFCD reviewed the EM&A reports submitted by the project proponents, carried out field visits to verify the findings and ensured ecological mitigation measures and monitoring had been properly implemented.

A wide range of ecological mitigation measures were applied in these projects and monitored in the EM&A programme. For instance, ecological impacts were avoided by adjusting the project layout or scheduling the construction period outside the breeding seasons of targeted species groups. Ecological impacts were also minimized by adopting ecologically friendly design or translocation of targeted species away from work sites. In addition, important habitats such as woodland or wetland that were lost due to the development projects were compensated by habitat re-creation and enhancement.

The ecological mitigation measures monitored in the EM&A programme have so far been satisfactory and no major non-compliance has been detected. Although minor problems in certain projects have been reported, appropriate remedial measures have been suggested and agreed by relevant authorities.

In 2007-08, a provision of about \$2.5 million, including the staff cost for two professional staff and two field staff, is earmarked for dealing with the EM&A programme on ecological mitigation measures of major development projects.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

MRS STELLA HUNG

Post Title:

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date:

16 March 2007

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2007-08, it is mentioned that the Department will implement a territory-wide survey programme to collect information required for establishing and updating an ecological database. Is the survey programme to be implemented for the first time? What are the details of the programme? What are the estimated amounts of manpower and expenditure involved in 2007-08?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The survey programme has started since 2002-03. It covers different habitats; the location, status and composition of about 100 plant communities; and the distribution and abundance of about 1,000 animal species, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, freshwater fish, dragonflies and butterflies. We are establishing a geographic information system (GIS) version of ecological database to enable the storage of data in digital format and analysis of spatial data using computer GIS. This GIS database is due for completion in 2007-08. A simplified internet version of database can now be accessed through the department's website. Since ecology is dynamic, we intend to follow up the surveys with continuous monitoring and repeated surveys to update the database.

An estimate of \$2.6 million will be spent for the programme in 2007-08, which includes the provision for one professional officer and one field officer posts.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

MRS STELLA HUNG

Post Title:

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date:

16 March 2007

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Provision for 2007-08 is \$12.3 million (3.0%) higher than the revised estimate for 2006-07. Please give breakdown figures of the estimated expenditure for the operation of the Hong Kong Wetland Park, capital expenditure and creation of two posts in 2007-08. How is the increase in expenditure partly offset by decrease in non-recurrent expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The 2007-08 Estimate for Programme (2) is \$418.8 million, which is \$12.3 million (or 3.0%) more than the 2006-07 Revised Estimate of \$406.5 million.

The increase is mainly due to-

- (1) additional provision of \$10.6 million for service improvement at the Hong Kong Wetland Park, including enhancing maintenance of exhibits, enhancing cleaning services, provision of new guided tour service to the public to cope with the high patronage;
- (2) \$1.8 million for the capital project of providing potable water supply for toilet facilities at Tai Tong in the Tai Lam Country Park;
- (3) \$0.8 million for the creation of two posts of Forestry Officer for providing professional advice on ecological aspects of environmental impact assessment (EIA) studies under the EIA Ordinance and on other nature conservation matters to government departments;

which is partly offset by-

- (4) the decrease in non-recurrent expenditure of \$0.9 million following the completion of the Wetland Link International Asia Symposium in 2006-07.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

MRS STELLA HUNG

Post Title:

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date:

16 March 2007

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Please provide full details of the implementation of a territory-wide survey programme to collect information required for establishing and updating an ecological database in 2007-08. How much resources have been allocated for the programme? When will it be completed?

Asked by : Hon. YOUNG Howard

Reply :

The survey programme has started since 2002-03. It covers different habitats; the location, status and composition of about 100 plant communities; and the distribution and abundance of about 1,000 animal species, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, freshwater fish, dragonflies and butterflies. We are establishing a geographic information system (GIS) version of ecological database to enable the storage of data in digital format and analysis of spatial data using computer GIS. This GIS database is due for completion in 2007-08. A simplified internet version of database can now be accessed through the department's website. Since ecology is dynamic, we intend to follow up the surveys with continuous monitoring and repeated surveys to update the database.

An estimate of \$2.6 million will be spent for the programme in 2007-08, which includes the provision for one professional officer and one field officer posts.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

MRS STELLA HUNG

Post Title:

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date:

16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)012

Question Serial No.

0479

Head : 33 – Civil Engineering and Development Department
Subhead :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The revised estimate for 2006-07 is 56.9% less than the original estimate.
Please give reasons for the great reduction.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

Arising from the recent running down of reclamation projects in Hong Kong, a large amount of surplus public fill generated locally is being stockpiled in Tseung Kwan O and Tuen Mun Fill Banks, which are approaching the limits of their storage capacities. We have secured an agreement with the Mainland authorities for delivering the surplus public fill for use in the Mainland reclamation sites. The revised estimate for 2006-07 is lower than the original estimate mainly due to a deferment in the commencement of this cross-boundary delivery scheme resulting in reduced operating expenses in the same year.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ADRIAN NG

Post Title _____

Director of Civil Engineering and Development (Acting)

Date _____

16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)013

Question Serial No.

1669

Head : 33 – Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The estimate for 2007-08 is \$243.7 million (143.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2006-07. This is mainly due to additional provision for implementing the scheme on cross-boundary delivery of surplus public fill. Please give details of the expenses involved.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

Arising from the recent running down of reclamation projects in Hong Kong, a large amount of surplus public fill generated locally is being stockpiled in the two temporary fill banks at Tseung Kwan O and Tuen Mun, which are approaching the limits of their storage capacities. We have therefore secured an agreement with the Mainland authorities for delivering the surplus public fill for use in the Mainland reclamation sites. We awarded a contract in November 2006 to implement this delivery scheme. The increase in the estimate for 2007-08 is mainly due to deferred implementation of the delivery, thus resulting in increased requirement in 2007-08 when the delivery scheme is expected to be in full swing. A provision of \$413 million is earmarked in 2007-08 for payment to the contractor for the operation of public fill reception facilities and the cross-boundary delivery of surplus public fill, the related staff costs and administrative overheads.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ADRIAN NG

Post Title _____

Director of Civil Engineering and Development (Acting)

Date _____

16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)014

Question Serial No.

0210

Head : 33 – Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The revised estimate is \$224.1 million lower than the original estimate for 2006-07. What are the reasons for it? The estimate for 2007-08 is \$243.7 million higher than the revised estimate for 2006-07. What are the reasons for it? Please give details of the expenditures.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

Arising from the recent running down of reclamation projects in Hong Kong, a large amount of surplus public fill generated locally is being stockpiled in the two temporary fill banks at Tseung Kwan O and Tuen Mun, which are approaching the limits of their storage capacities. We have therefore secured an agreement with the Mainland authorities for delivering the surplus public fill for use in the Mainland reclamation sites. We awarded a contract in November 2006 to implement this delivery scheme. The decrease in revised estimate for 2006-07 and the increase in the estimate for 2007-08 are mainly due to the deferred implementation of the delivery scheme, thus resulting in decreased requirement of operating expenses in 2006-07 and increased requirement in 2007-08 when the delivery scheme is expected to be in full swing. A provision of \$413 million is earmarked in 2007-08 for payment to the contractor for the operation of the local public fill reception facilities and the cross-boundary delivery of public fill, the related staff costs and administrative overheads.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ADRIAN NG** _____

Post Title _____ **Director of Civil Engineering and Development (Acting)** _____

Date _____ **16 March 2007** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)016

Question Serial No.

2455

Head : 33 – Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The 2007-08 estimate is \$243.7 million higher than the 2006-07 revised estimate. This is mainly due to additional provision for implementing the scheme on cross-boundary delivery of surplus public fill. Please advise of the staffing provision and expenditure involved for the scheme.

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply :

Arising from the recent running down of reclamation projects in Hong Kong, a large amount of surplus public fill generated locally is being stockpiled in the two temporary fill banks at Tseung Kwan O and Tuen Mun, which are approaching the limits of their storage capacities. We have therefore entered into an agreement with the Mainland authorities for delivering the surplus public fill for use in the Mainland reclamation sites. We awarded a contract in November 2006 to implement this delivery scheme. The decrease in revised estimate for 2006-07 is mainly due to deferred implementation of the delivery scheme. The existing staff managing the reception of public fill involving five professionals and 34 technical staff will also be responsible for the supervision of the delivery work. A provision of \$413 million is earmarked in 2007-08 for payment to the contractor for the operation of public fill reception facilities and the cross-boundary delivery of public fill, the related staff costs and administrative overheads.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ADRIAN NG

Post Title _____

Director of Civil Engineering and Development (Acting)

Date _____

16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)017

Question Serial No.

0144

Head : 33 – Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The revised estimate for 2006-07 is far lower than the original estimate for the same financial year but the estimate for 2007-08 is higher than the original estimate for 2006-07. Please explain the reasons for the increased estimate as there will not be many new items to implement.

Asked by : Hon. TAM Heung-man

Reply :

Arising from the recent running down of reclamation projects in Hong Kong, a large amount of surplus public fill generated locally is being stockpiled in the two temporary fill banks at Tseung Kwan O and Tuen Mun, which are approaching the limits of their storage capacities. We have therefore secured an agreement with the Mainland authorities for delivering the surplus public fill for use in the Mainland reclamation sites. We awarded a contract in November 2006 to implement this delivery scheme. The decrease in revised estimate for 2006-07 is mainly due to deferred implementation of the scheme on cross-boundary delivery of surplus public fill, thus resulting in reduced operating expenses. The estimate for 2007-08 is higher than the original estimate for 2006-07 because the surplus fill reception site finally assigned by the Mainland is farther away from Hong Kong than previously estimated.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ADRIAN NG** _____

Post Title _____ **Director of Civil Engineering and Development (Acting)** _____

Date _____ **16 March 2007** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)018

Question Serial No.

0145

Head : 33 – Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : What are the details and the estimated expenditure of the cross-boundary delivery of surplus public fill? What benefits will this scheme bring?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Heung-man

Reply :

Arising from the recent running down of reclamation projects in Hong Kong, a large amount of surplus public fill generated locally is being stockpiled in the two temporary fill banks at Tseung Kwan O and Tuen Mun, which are approaching the limits of their storage capacities. We have therefore entered into an agreement with the Mainland authorities for delivering the surplus public fill for use in the Mainland reclamation sites. We awarded a two-year contract in November 2006 to implement this cross-boundary delivery scheme with a contract sum of \$768 million. The estimated expenditure in 2007-08 is \$413 million, comprising the provision for payment to the contractor for the operation of the local public fill reception facilities and the cross-boundary delivery of public fill, the related staff costs and administrative overheads. It is estimated that about ten million tonnes of surplus public fill will be delivered to the Mainland for beneficial use in one year under the contract. This scheme will alleviate the burden of handling the large quantity of surplus public fill being generated locally and help vacate the land now used as temporary fill banks at Tseung Kwan O and Tuen Mun for other developments.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ADRIAN NG** _____

Post Title _____ **Director of Civil Engineering and Development (Acting)** _____

Date _____ **16 March 2007** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)019

Question Serial No.

2054

Head : 33 – Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Regarding the management of construction and demolition materials, the 2005-06 provision is \$136 million and the 2006-07 estimate is \$169.7 million. The 2007-08 estimate is drastically increased to \$413.4 million mainly due to additional provision for implementing the scheme on cross-boundary delivery of surplus public fill. What are the details of the scheme? What is the amount of provision involved? How will the provision be used?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

Arising from the recent running down of reclamation projects in Hong Kong, a large amount of surplus public fill generated locally is being stockpiled in the two temporary fill banks at Tseung Kwan O and Tuen Mun, which are approaching the limits of their storage capacities. We have therefore entered into an agreement with the Mainland authorities for delivering the surplus public fill for use in the Mainland reclamation sites. We awarded a two-year contract in November 2006 to implement this cross-boundary delivery scheme with a contract sum of \$768 million. The estimated expenditure in 2007-08 is \$413 million, comprising the provision for payment to the contractor for the operation of the local public fill reception facilities and the cross-boundary delivery of public fill, the related staff costs and administrative overheads.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ADRIAN NG** _____

Post Title _____ **Director of Civil Engineering and Development (Acting)** _____

Date _____ **16 March 2007** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)020

Question Serial No.

0631

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : As far as the indicator for the value of contracts under construction is concerned, the estimate for 2007 is \$3,662 million, which is \$1,347 million lower than the actual value of \$5,009 million for 2006, representing a reduction of 27%. Please tell the Council the reasons for the substantial reduction in value.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

The reduction in the 2007 construction value is mainly because the Drainage Services Department has substantially completed the construction works of a number of major sewerage projects in 2006. Details of some of these projects, and the amounts by which the total value of contracts has been reduced as a result, are provided below:

Item No.	Project Name	Amount (\$ million)
4276DS (part)	Sha Tin sewage treatment works, stage 3 extension	922
4333DS	Central, Western and Wan Chai West sewerage, stage 2 phase 2A works	254
4330DS (part)	North District sewerage, stage 1 phases 1B and 2A	72
Total		1,248

Signature _____

Name in block letters C.K. WONG

Post Title Director of Drainage Services

Date 15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)021

Question Serial No.

0761

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Please list out the post titles, ranks, areas of responsibilities and annual salaries of the ten posts to be created in 2007-08. What services will be improved by creating these posts?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

A breakdown showing the post titles, ranks, areas of responsibilities and annual salaries of the ten posts to be created in 2007-08 is provided below:

Post title / rank	Number of Posts to be Created	Areas of Responsibilities	NAMS* (\$)
Works Supervisor II (Civil)	8	Operational support for sewer maintenance	1,460,640
Executive Officer II	1	Administrative support	304,080
Assistant Information Officer	1	Public relations support	289,620
Total	10		2,054,340

* Notional Annual Mid-Point Salary

The creation of these new posts will strengthen the sewerage maintenance and improve the Drainage Services Department's administrative management and communication with the public.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C.K. WONG

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)022

Question Serial No.

0762

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Under this programme, the estimated expenditure in 2007-08 will increase by 2%, partly as a result of increased requirement for operating new facilities. Please provide details why the new facilities are introduced. What improvement to sewage services will be provided by the new facilities? Will cost savings arise from these facilities?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

In 2007-08, major new facilities including four sludge dewatering facilities and six anaerobic digesters at the Shatin Sewage Treatment Works will be put into operation as part of its Stage 3 Extension. The upgrading of the Shatin Sewage Treatment Works, when completed, will increase its treatment capacity to cope with the increase in population in the Shatin and Ma On Shan area. It will also improve the odour emission and the quality of effluent discharged.

Upon commissioning of the new dewatering facilities, the volume of dewatered sludge will be reduced, leading to lower sludge transportation and landfilling costs. On the other hand, the commissioning of Stage 3 anaerobic digesters will enhance the sludge digestion process resulting in high mass reduction and more biogas being produced for power generation. Therefore the new facilities will achieve cost savings on sludge handling as well as on plant electricity consumption. The Drainage Services Department will monitor the cost savings closely to reap the best results.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C.K. WONG

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)023

Question Serial No.

0763

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : How many appeal cases of sewage charge and trade effluent surcharge were there in 2004, 2005 and 2006? How many of them were approved? Of which, how many were from the restaurant trade? What is the average time needed to complete the processing of a case?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

The number of applications and approvals for reassessment of trade effluent surcharge (TES) rate (i.e. COD reassessment) and discharge factor for sewage charge and TES in the past three years are as follows:

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
No. of applications for reassessment of TES rate			
All trades	638	842	819
Restaurant trade	542	745	715
No. of successful applications for reassessment of TES rate			
All trades	571	679	527
Restaurant trade	478	586	440
No. of applications for reassessment of discharge factor			
All trades	64	40*	42
Restaurant trade	0	0	0
No. of successful applications for reassessment of discharge factor			
All trades	41	51*	33
Restaurant trade	0	0	0

* The number of successful applications exceeded the number of applications received in 2004-05 because a large number of applications were received in late 2003-04 and approved in 2004-05.

It normally takes three to four months to process a case.

Signature _____

Name in block letters C.K. WONG

Post Title Director of Drainage Services

Date 15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)024

Question Serial No.

2460

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : In 2007-08, ten new posts will be created. Please tell the Council the ranks, responsibilities and estimated expenditure involved of the relevant posts.

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply :

Details of the ten posts to be created in 2007-08 are provided below:

Rank	Number of Posts to be Created	Responsibilities	NAMS* (\$)
Works Supervisor II (Civil)	8	Operational support for sewer maintenance	1,460,640
Executive Officer II	1	Administrative support	304,080
Assistant Information Officer	1	Public relations support	289,620
Total	10		2,054,340

* Notional Annual Mid-Point Salary

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **C.K. WONG**

Post Title _____ **Director of Drainage Services**

Date _____ **15 March 2007**

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)025

Question Serial No.

0035

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The value of projects under detailed design for 2006 in this programme area is \$9,301.5 million, which represents a substantial increase of 59% over the value of \$5,846.5 million for 2005. What are the reasons? What are the projects and their expenditures involved?

Asked by : Hon. LI Kwok-ying

Reply :

In 2006, the Drainage Services Department started design work for a number of new sewerage projects, including the investigation and reference design for the tunnel conveyance system of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme, stage 2A with the construction works estimated to cost about \$3.6 billion. This mainly accounts for the difference in the projects value between 2005 and 2006.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **C.K. WONG**

Post Title _____ **Director of Drainage Services**

Date _____ **15 March 2007**

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)026

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

Programme : (2) Sewage Services

0760

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Please inform the Council of the progress of the upgrading works of Shek Wu Hui Sewage Treatment Works, Tai Po Sewage Treatment Works Stage 5 Extension and Shatin Sewage Treatment Works Stage 3 Extension. When will the various projects be expected to complete? Will acceleration of the projects be considered? If yes, what measures will be taken? What will be the manpower and resource input for 2006-07 and 2007-08?

Asked by : Hon. LI Kwok-ying

Reply :

The progress of the three sewage treatment works projects is as follows:

- (a) Shek Wu Hui Sewage Treatment Works Upgrading
About 49% of the civil works has been completed. We plan to complete most of the civil works in early 2008 and proceed to electrical and mechanical equipment installation so that the project could be completed by February 2009. The estimated expenditure under this project in 2006-07 and 2007-08 are \$28M and \$38M respectively, with an estimated manpower input of about 150 man-months for in-house professional and technical supervision each.
- (b) Tai Po Sewage Treatment Works Stage 5 Extension
The project is being implemented in three phases, namely, Phase 1, Phase 2A and Phase 2B. Phase 1 extension commenced in May 2005 for completion in September 2009, with about 36% of the works completed. Phase 2A and Phase 2B will commence construction in February 2008 and end 2009 for completion in March 2010 and end 2013 respectively. The estimated expenditure in 2006-07 and 2007-08 are \$90M and \$72M respectively, with an estimated manpower input of about 290 man-months for in-house professional and technical supervision each.
- (c) Shatin Sewage Treatment Works Stage 3 Extension
We have completed over 83% of the works and most of the new facilities including sludge dewatering and digester facilities have been put into operation. With the completion of these new facilities, we are proceeding to retrofit the existing sewage treatment units with a view to completing the whole project by August 2010. The estimated expenditure in 2006-07 and 2007-08 are \$92M and \$58M respectively. The estimated manpower input in 2006-07 and 2007-08 for in-house professional and technical supervision are about 240 man-months and 190 man-months respectively.

At present, the capacity of the above three Sewage Treatment Works is adequate to meet the population built-up in their respective areas. The progress of works is overall satisfactory and there is limited room for further accelerating the project programme. Nonetheless, we will continue to monitor the development closely, and if necessary, take appropriate measures to expedite.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C.K. WONG

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)027

Question Serial No.

0329

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead :
Department

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Regarding the indicator “non grid-connected renewable installations completed”, on what criteria is the number of installations completed set at four for 2007?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

Non grid-connected renewable installations refer to those renewable installations either generating heat energy or operating as stand-alone power systems. Examples are solar hot water installations and small renewable power systems connected to dedicated loads or located in remote areas. In 2007-08, three solar hot water systems and one photovoltaic lighting system are planned for installation on government premises. The criteria for setting the target number of projects include the availability of suitable venues, the operational need of the premises, and the effectiveness in enhancing the awareness of the public on the use of renewable energy.

Signature _____

Name in block letters HO KWONG WAI

Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date 14 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)028

Question Serial No.

0330

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Please provide the details of the “Research and development on the application of innovative energy efficiency technologies”, including the topics for study, the expenditure and the expected date of completion in 2007-08.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department will conduct the following three research and development projects relating to the application of innovative energy efficiency technologies in 2007-08:

Project	Aim	Estimated Cost (\$ million)	Target Completion Date
Dual cycle heat pump system	To test the technology/equipment to supply both hot water and cooling air/water simultaneously for premises such as laundry and catering services.	0.4	December 2007
Pump control optimisation for air-conditioning system	To test the technology/equipment to optimise the operations of the water pumps in an air-conditioning system to achieve energy saving.	1.2	January 2008
Solar-assisted air-conditioning system	To test the technology/equipment to make use of a solar hot water system to supply energy for the operation of an air-conditioning system.	0.9	March 2008

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **HO KWONG WAI**

Post Title _____ **Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services**

Date _____ **15 March 2007**

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)029

Question Serial No.

0758

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Regarding matters requiring special attention in 2007-08, in “promoting best practices in energy efficiency and conservation in the community through publicity and public education programmes”, what expenditure will be involved in the promotion of more efficient energy management initiatives which will help reduce the emission of greenhouse gases?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

The estimated expenditure for promoting efficient energy management initiatives organised by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) in 2007-08 is about \$0.9 million. The promotional activities include:

- organising the Hong Kong Energy Efficiency Awards for target sectors;
- conducting briefings for professional bodies, property development and management companies, schools and interested groups on energy efficiency and conservation;
- arranging tours for organisations like schools, professional bodies and interested groups to the Education Path of the EMSD Headquarters Building to enhance their awareness of energy efficiency and conservation; and
- distributing promotional leaflets and newsletters to the public on energy efficiency and related matters.

All the promotional activities aim to raise the public awareness on energy efficiency and conservation which help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **HO KWONG WAI** _____

Post Title _____ **Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services** _____

Date _____ **16 March 2007** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)030

Question Serial No.

1534

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : It is mentioned that the Department will continue to promote wider application of the voluntary Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme. What plans have been devised to increase the participation rate of the scheme? What is the expenditure involved? How many new products are expected to join the scheme in 2007-08?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

In 2007-08, we will continue to encourage more product suppliers to join the voluntary Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme by delivering talks and distributing promotional pamphlets to the trade members. We will also continue to raise the public awareness on the energy labels through various promotional activities such as Announcement in the Public Interest for the Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme, posters, pamphlets, campaigns, and talks to trades and schools. The estimated expenditure on the publicity work in 2007-08 is about \$50,000. The number of new product models expected to join the scheme in 2007-08 is 330.

In addition, we will plan to introduce a mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme by way of legislation to encourage the use of energy efficient products. The initial phase of the mandatory scheme will cover three products: refrigerators, room air-conditioners and compact fluorescent lamps. We plan to table the new legislation to the Legislative Council in the second quarter of 2007.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **HO KWONG WAI** _____

Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____ 16 March 2007 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)032

Question Serial No.

2289

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead :

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Regarding liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicle safety, there were 1 473 enquiries/complaints handled in 2006. What were the areas that the enquiries/complaints were mainly related to?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

In 2006, there were 1 340 enquiries relating to LPG vehicle safety issues such as LPG fuel tank revalidation, enlistment of competent persons and safe use of LPG vehicles. The remaining 133 complaints were related to operation of LPG filling stations.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **HO KWONG WAI** _____

Post Title _____ **Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services** _____

Date _____ **15 March 2007** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)033

Question Serial No.

1036

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : In respect of the indicator “inspections of approved filling stations”, the actual number of inspections in 2006 is 243 and the estimated number of inspections in 2007 is 220. Both are much higher than the actual number of inspections of 50 in 2005. What is the reason for this?

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

Owing to the increase in number of enquiries/complaints in relation to approved liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations in 2005 and early 2006, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has stepped up inspections on the approved LPG filling stations since early 2006, to closely monitor their operations and provide guidance and advice as necessary. Views of the LPG vehicle trade have also been taken into account when carrying out the above work. Since then, the operation of the approved LPG filling stations has gradually improved. The EMSD will continue to closely monitor the operation of LPG filling stations in 2007. The actual number of inspections in 2006 and the estimated number of inspections in 2007 are therefore higher than that in 2005.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **HO KWONG WAI** _____

Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____ **16 March 2007** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)034

Question Serial No.

1038

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead :

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : What is the estimated expenditure on the study of renewable energy in 2007-08?

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

The estimated expenditure in 2007-08 for the studies on renewable energy systems is \$1 million, which will cover:

- solar-assisted air conditioning system; and
- solar hot water systems.

Signature _____

Name in block letters HO KWONG WAI

Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date 16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)035

Question Serial No.

1039

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead :

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Regarding establishment and updating of the energy end-use database, what are the details and the estimate for 2007-08?

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

The energy end-use database, since its establishment in 1991, is updated annually to provide stakeholders such as universities, utilities, energy companies, transport sectors and consultants the energy consumption patterns and usage in Hong Kong. A provision of \$200,000 is earmarked in 2007-08 for the updating of the database, including the conduction of surveys and publication of booklets. The database is available for public access on the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department's website.

Signature _____

Name in block letters HO KWONG WAI

Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date 16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)036

Question Serial No.

1040

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The Administration will promote grid connection of small-scale renewable energy systems in 2007-08. What are the details of the project and the estimated expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

In 2007-08, the Technical Guidelines on Grid Connection of Small-scale Renewable Energy Systems published by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department in 2005 will continue to serve as a quick reference to assist the public to apply for grid connection of their renewable energy systems to the power companies. Advice will also be provided for enquiries received by the 24-hour hotline 1823 or through e-mail address eepublic@emsd.gov.hk.

The estimated expenditure for promoting grid connection of renewable installations in 2007-08 is about \$40,000, which will be mainly for printing of promotional leaflets.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **HO KWONG WAI** _____

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services _____

Date _____ 16 March 2007 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)037

Question Serial No.

1041

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The Administration will facilitate the implementation of energy saving projects by government departments in 2007-08. What are the estimated savings to be achieved?

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department has been assisting bureaux and departments to reduce energy consumption, with a reduction target of 6% between 2002-03 and 2006-07. In 2007-08, to further improve the energy efficiency of government buildings, we shall continue and strengthen our initiatives, such as promotion of 25.5°C room temperature setting, reinforcing the message of light dressing in summer months, carrying out energy saving projects including retrofitting of energy efficient lightings, installation of variable speed drives and replacement of air-cooled air conditioning systems with water-cooled air conditioning systems. Also, we shall continue to promote green housekeeping practices, for example, switching off unused office equipment, lighting and computers after office hours and the use of window blinds to reduce direct sunlight.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **HO KWONG WAI** _____

Post Title _____ **Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services** _____

Date _____ **15 March 2007** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)038

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead :

Question Serial No.

0483

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Regarding the promotion of public awareness of energy efficiency and conservation, conservation measures and the use of renewable energy, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) the details of the relevant projects launched by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) and the expenditure involved in 2006-07, and the details of the relevant projects to be launched and the estimated expenditure involved in 2007-08;
- (b) the estimated expenditure on the study of renewable energy in 2007-08; and
- (c) whether measures will be taken in 2007-08 to assist energy users in grid connection and allow them to re-sell electricity to the power companies so as to encourage the private sector to develop renewable energy installations. If so, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply :

- (a) The EMSD organised the following promotional activities in 2006-07 to enhance public awareness of energy efficiency and conservation, conservation measures and renewable energy:
- second Hong Kong Energy Efficiency Awards for residential and commercial buildings;
 - briefings for professional bodies, property development and management companies, schools and interested groups on energy efficiency and conservation;
 - tours for organisations such as schools, professional bodies and interested groups to the Education Path of the EMSD Headquarters Building; and
 - distribution of promotional leaflets and newsletters to the public on energy efficiency and related matters.
- The total expenditure for the above promotional activities is \$0.8 million in 2006-07. Similar promotional activities with appropriate refinement will continue in 2007-08. The estimated expenditure is about \$0.9 million in 2007-08.
- (b) The estimated expenditure in 2007-08 for the studies on renewable energy systems is \$1 million, which will cover:
- solar-assisted air conditioning system; and
 - solar hot water systems.
- (c) In 2007-08, the Technical Guidelines on Grid Connection of Small-scale Renewable Energy Systems published by the EMSD in 2005 will continue to serve as a quick reference to assist the public to apply for grid connection of their renewable energy systems to the power companies. Advice will also be provided for enquiries received by the 24-hour hotline 1823 or through e-mail address eepublic@emsd.gov.hk.

At present, both power companies do not have any arrangement to purchase electricity generated by grid-connected renewable energy systems.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **HO KWONG WAI** _____

Post Title _____ **Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services** _____

Date _____ **16 March 2007** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)039

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead :

Question Serial No.

1969

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The number of inspections of approved liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations in 2006 is 243, which, when compared with that of 50 in 2005, has increased by nearly five times.

- (1) What is the reason for the significant increase in the number of inspections? Please provide details of the inspection works and associated manpower and expenditure in the past two years. Any extra manpower and expenditure involved?
- (2) The estimated number of inspections is 220 in 2007. What is the reason for this estimate? What will be the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (1) Owing to the increase in number of enquiries/complaints in relation to approved LPG filling stations in 2005 and early 2006, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has stepped up inspections on the approved LPG filling stations since early 2006, to closely monitor their operations and provide guidance and advice as necessary. The inspections aim to ensure gas safety and service quality, which involve the checking of the safety of LPG storage and filling facilities, LPG replenishing arrangement and operation of LPG filling facilities. The inspections were undertaken by a team of three mechanical inspectors whose responsibilities covered a wide range of duties, including enforcement duties relating to LPG filling network and supporting infrastructure for LPG vehicles. Inspections of LPG filling stations are part of the EMSD's normal duties. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved for this particular duty in the past two years. Moreover, the EMSD has deployed existing resources to step up inspections on approved LPG filling stations. No extra manpower is required.
- (2) The EMSD will continue to closely monitor the operation of LPG filling stations in 2007. The estimated number of inspections on the approved LPG filling stations in 2007 is projected on the basis of the number of approved LPG filling stations and planned quarterly inspections. The EMSD will continue to deploy existing resources to carry out the inspections and no additional resources will be required.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **HO KWONG WAI** _____

Post Title _____ **Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services** _____

Date _____ **16 March 2007** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)040

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead :

Question Serial No.

1970

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The number of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations approved in 2006 is one, which is less than that of five in 2005.

- (1) What are the respective numbers of applications for approval of LPG filling stations in 2005 and 2006? What are the work and the procedures involved in approving a LPG filling station? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?
- (2) The estimated number of filling stations approved is two in 2007. What is the reason for this estimate? Is there any data to support that it is adequate to meet the market demand? What will be the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (1) There were five applications in 2005 and one application in 2006 for operation of LPG filling stations and all of them were approved. The approval process involves checking the design submission of the LPG filling station, vetting of quantitative risk assessment report and carrying out site inspections to ensure compliance with all relevant regulations, standards and codes of practice. The vetting work is undertaken mainly by one engineer whose responsibilities cover a wide range of duties, including enforcement duties relating to LPG filling network and supporting infrastructure for LPG vehicles. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved for this particular duty as the work is carried out by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department's (EMSD) existing staff as part of their normal duties.
- (2) Noting that one LPG filling station is under construction and another one is at the detailed design stage, we estimate that the number of filling stations approved in 2007 would be two. At present, there are already 56 LPG filling stations in Hong Kong, the capacity of which can adequately meet the demand of LPG taxis and light buses. To further expand the LPG filling network, it is the government policy to include LPG filling facilities in all future land sales for petrol stations, subject to safety requirements being met. The EMSD will continue to examine the new applications for LPG filling stations and monitor the development of LPG filling network. The EMSD will continue to deploy existing resources to carry out the work as part of its normal duties and there is no breakdown on the expenditure involved for this particular duty.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **HO KWONG WAI** _____

Post Title _____ **Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services** _____

Date _____ **16 March 2007** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)041

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services
Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

1971

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : There were 1 462 and 1 473 enquiries/complaints handled relating to liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicle safety in 2005 and 2006 respectively.

- (1) What are the work and the procedures for handling these enquiries and complaints? How many enquiries and complaints were there respectively in each year? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?
- (2) The estimated number of enquiries/complaints handled in 2007 is 1 000. What is the reason for this estimate? What will be the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (1) For every enquiry or complaint received, a subject officer will be assigned to handle it in accordance with the established procedures and performance pledges. In 2005, there were 1 064 enquiries relating to LPG vehicle safety issues such as LPG fuel tank revalidation, enlistment of competent persons and safe use of LPG vehicles. The remaining 398 were complaints related to the operation of LPG filling stations. In 2006, the respective numbers of enquiries and complaints received were 1 340 and 133. The work on handling of enquiries and complaints was undertaken by a team of engineers and mechanical inspectors whose responsibilities cover a wide range of duties, including enforcement duties relating to LPG filling network and supporting infrastructure for LPG vehicles. The handling of enquiries and complaints is part of the normal duties of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD). There is no separate breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved for this particular duty in 2005 and 2006.
- (2) The number of enquiries/complaints handled in 2007 is estimated taking into account the following:
 - (a) The number of LPG fuel tanks due for the five-yearly revalidation in 2007 (2 200 nos.) will be about one-fourth of that in 2006 (9 018 nos.). It is expected that there will be a corresponding decrease in the number of enquiries relating to LPG fuel tank revalidation in 2007; and
 - (b) The operation of approved LPG filling stations had been improved since the implementation of the new pricing adjustment mechanism at dedicated LPG filling stations in March 2006, resulting in a drop in the number of complaints in the second half of 2006. It is expected that the number of complaints on the operation of LPG filling stations in 2007 will be lower than that in 2006.

The EMSD will deploy existing resources to handle enquiries/complaints and no additional resources will be required.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

HO KWONG WAI

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)043

Question Serial No.

1325

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The Administration will progressively tighten emissions caps on power stations upon renewal of licences on specified processes in 2007-08. Please inform the Committee about the details of work and the expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

Within 2007-08, the licences of the Castle Peak Power Station and the Black Point Power Station will be due for renewal. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will take up with the two power stations on the emission caps to be imposed under the renewed licences with a view to ensuring that their emissions will achieve timely the 2010 emission reduction targets under the 2002 consensus between the HKSAR Government and Guangdong Provincial Government and be reduced to the practicable minimum in the interim. EPD will deploy existing resources to do the work as part of the normal duties and there is no breakdown on the expenditure involved for this particular duty.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)045

Question Serial No.

1327

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The estimated expenditure for 2007-08 is \$724.1 million (299.3%) higher than the revised estimate for 2006-07. This is mainly due to additional provision for the one-off grant to encourage early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard, consulting the public on a legislative ban on idling vehicles, initiatives on air quality improvement, proactive control programme on demolition of asbestos in unauthorised building works and enforcement of the new regulation to control emission of volatile organic compounds. In addition, there will be a net creation of two posts in 2007-08. Please provide the breakdown of expenditure for each of the above items.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

The increase of \$724.1 million (or 299.3%) in 2007-08 estimate over the revised estimate for 2006-07 under Programme (2) Air is due to the following –

Items	Description	\$ million
(a)	Provision for the one-off grant to encourage early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard	700.0
(b)	Consulting the public on a legislative ban on idling vehicles	3.4
(c)	Initiatives on air quality improvement	6.8
(d)	Proactive control programme on demolition of asbestos in unauthorised building works	2.3
(e)	Enforcement of the new regulation to control emission of volatile organic compounds	2.7
(f)	Increased provision for strengthening the control of emissions from petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles	2.2
(g)	Increased requirement for new equipment for measuring emission from vehicles	3.2
(h)	Additional requirements for other operating expenses including a net creation of two posts	3.5
	Total	724.1

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) / Director
of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)046

Question Serial No.

1328

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Noise

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Under the Indicators of this Programme, the actual number of complaints handled in 2006 is 5 738, which is 738 more than the 5 000 estimated for 2006, representing an increase of 14.7%. Why is the actual number of complaints handled more than expected?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

The actual number of noise complaints handled in 2005 was 5 034. A round-off figure of 5 000 was put down as the 2006 estimate. Since complaints are externally driven, the number of actual cases could differ from the estimated figure. In addition, with the growing interest in the quality of environment, members of the public are likely to be more forthcoming in lodging complaints on the environment, including that on noise pollution.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)050

Question Serial No.

0077

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : With regard to facilitating and promoting wider application of renewable energy in 2007-08, how much expenditure is involved? What are the details?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is responsible for the policy formulation work relating to the development of renewable energy while the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) is responsible for the implementation of various initiatives in this area, including organizing programmes to facilitate and promote wider application of renewable energy. On the policy side, the work is carried out by existing resources of the EPD and there is no breakdown on the expenditure for this particular duty. On the implementation side, in 2007-08, EMSD will continue to provide professional support and advice to government bureaux/departments and the private sector on issues relating to the adoption of renewable energy in Hong Kong. Major activities include:

- (a) monitoring the work and progress made by Works Departments in adopting renewable energy technologies in public works projects;
- (b) carrying out projects which adopt renewable energy at the government premises;
- (c) promoting grid connection of renewable energy power system;
- (d) launching the renewable energy technologies website; and
- (e) conducting briefings and organizing visits for schools, professional bodies and interested groups, to promote the application of renewable energy technologies.

The expenditure in 2007-08 for the development and promotion of renewable energy by EMSD is estimated to be \$9.5 million.

In addition, the Government has proposed in the Stage II Consultation Paper on Future Development of the Electricity Market in Hong Kong that a number of initiatives would be made in the future regulatory regime to promote the development of renewable energy, including to provide financial incentives to the power companies in the form of a relatively higher rate of return for renewable energy infrastructure.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

19 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)054

Question Serial No.

0081

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Regarding the new regulation to control the contents of volatile organic compounds in architectural paints, printing inks and selected consumer products, what are the details of law enforcement and implementation upon its introduction? And what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

The Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation covers regulated products locally manufactured or imported either by sole agents or parallel importers, for sale at the local market or proprietary use (i.e. the importer or manufacturer is also the end consumer). The regulation does not apply to products for export, re-export, trans-shipment or in transit, or those products manufactured or imported prior to the enforcement of the respective VOC limits (manufacturers or importers however have the obligations to keep records of the products imported or manufactured in case of being required for assisting investigations of suspected offences). To enforce the proposed new regulation, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will conduct surprise surveillance and spot checks at the local market. The enforcement will include taking random samples of regulated paints, printing inks and consumer products for testing to ensure compliance with the Regulation. In the event of suspected contravention, importers or manufacturers may be asked to provide formulation data to assist investigation. The relevant testing methods for different products are prescribed in the law.

In terms of expenditure, EPD has earmarked \$2.7 million per year to enforce the provisions of the Regulation. The Government Laboratory has been provided with \$3.5 million for acquiring the necessary equipment.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)057

Question Serial No.

0088

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Regarding the viability study on establishing a nature conservation trust in 2007-08, what
are the details and estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

Some project proponents of applications received under the Pilot Scheme for Public-private Partnership (PPP) have proposed the establishment of site-specific trusts, in order to finance the long-term conservation of the ecologically sensitive sites concerned. The Environmental Protection Department and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will draw from the experience of the operation of these site-specific trusts in examining the merit and practicality of setting up a nature conservation trust in Hong Kong, particularly the sustainability and cost-effectiveness.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 13 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)063

Question Serial No.

1783

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : How effective is the pilot scheme launched by the Government to monitor roadside vehicle emissions by using remote sensing equipment? In this connection, please provide details of further extension of the scheme, its implementation timetable and the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

The Government has not launched a pilot scheme yet. At the moment, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is undertaking technical studies for developing a proposal to strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) vehicles by using roadside remote sensing equipment and dynamometer for emission testing. The studies have shown that remote sensing equipment is effective in identifying petrol and LPG vehicles with excessive emissions. We plan to put forward a proposal for consulting the affected parties around mid-2007. We have earmarked \$4.7 million for developing the proposal and the consultation work in 2007-08.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)066

Question Serial No.

1786

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Since the implementation of the charging arrangement for construction waste, what is the quantity of construction waste received at landfills, public filling areas and construction waste material sorting facilities in 2005 and 2006? How is it compared with the situation prior to the implementation of the charging arrangement?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

Since the implementation of charging for the disposal of construction waste at Designated Waste Disposal Facilities (DWDFs) including landfills, sorting facilities and public fill reception facilities on 20 January 2006, the average daily amount of construction waste disposed of at these DWDFs has decreased to 21 800 tonnes per day in 2006 when compared to 29 100 tonnes per day in 2005. This represents an overall reduction of around 25%.

If we refer to the disposal of construction waste at the three landfills only, the amount has decreased from a daily average of 6 600 tonnes per day in 2005 to a daily average of 4 000 tonnes per day in 2006 after the implementation of charging. This represents a reduction of around 40%.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)067

Question Serial No.

1787

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : For each of the past 3 years:

- (i) Please give a breakdown of the costs for collection, delivery, transfer and disposal of waste at landfills, the premium of landfills, as well as the average total cost of solid waste treatment per tonne.
- (ii) What are the costs involved in each procedure?
- (iii) With the increase in the recovery rate of solid waste in recent years, what is the average total cost for solid waste treatment per tonne in 2007-08 by estimation?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

(i) & (ii) A breakdown of the costs for transfer and disposal of waste at landfills is given below :

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
	(\$/tonne)	(\$/tonne)	(\$/tonne)
Transfer	223	201	194
Disposal at landfills	125	125	125
Total cost per tonne*	348	326	319

*In the estimation of average cost per tonne for landfill, land premium cost has not been taken into account.

Household waste collection and delivery service is mainly provided by Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD). Based on the last costing exercise in 2004, the unit cost per tonne is \$206. FEHD plans to conduct a new costing exercise in 2007-08 for updating purpose.

(iii) It is estimated that the average total cost for transfer and disposal at landfill in 2007-08 will be around \$323 per tonne.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)068

Question Serial No.

1788

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Has assessment been made on the effectiveness of energy conservation work? If yes, what
are the results of the assessment?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

The Government has been taking the lead in energy conservation. We have pledged to reduce our electricity consumption by 6% between 2002-03 and 2006-07 (i.e. 1.5% per year). With the concerted effort of government departments, as well as the technical support and expertise of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD), the Government has reduced electricity consumption by 5.6% between 2002-03 and 2005-06, and is well on our way to over-achieve the 6% target in 2006-07.

EMSD also collects energy end-use statistics to assess the overall energy consumption of Hong Kong. The results show a downward trend of energy consumption as measured by per GDP Hong Kong dollar, from 240 Terajoule per billion dollars in 1994 to 191 Terajoule per billion dollars in 2004.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

19 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)069

Question Serial No.

1789

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
 Department

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
 Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : In the past two years, what was the expenditure involved in buying products or effecting improvement works aiming at energy conservation? Please provide information on the types of products, the amount of savings achieved annually in energy conservation and the environmental benefits gained.

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

The Stores and Procurement Regulations were amended in November 2000 to require Government departments to give consideration to purchase products with “green” elements. In the past two years, about \$25 million worth of contracts were awarded for the purchase of electrical and electronic equipment with an “energy label” as a mandatory requirement (e.g. room coolers, etc.). Some energy saving features have been set as mandatory requirements for certain newer models of office equipment (e.g. photocopiers).

On improvement works, the expenditure for implementing energy saving projects in 2005-06 and 2006-07 was \$50 million and \$70 million respectively. These projects mainly involved retrofitting of energy efficient lightings, installation of automatic lighting on/off control systems, installation of variable speed drives, replacement of air-cooled air conditioning systems with water-cooled air conditioning systems and application of photovoltaic and solar hot water systems, etc. It is estimated that the annual savings from these energy saving projects were about \$9 million and \$11 million in 2005-06 and 2006-07 respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

19 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)070

Question Serial No.

1790

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : After the implementation of the Construction Waste Disposal Charging Scheme, how many cases of complaints against illegal deposit of waste has the Government received in total every year? How many tonnes of demolition and construction waste were involved? How did they compare with the situation before the implementation of the Scheme?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

Since the implementation of the Construction Waste Disposal Charging Scheme, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) received 1 546 complaints related to flytipping of construction waste in 2006 (20 Jan 2006 to 31 Dec 2006), while 365 complaints were received in 2005. In 2006, various government departments had handled approximately 12 000 tonnes of flytipped construction waste, which represented 0.2% of the total construction waste disposed of at the designated waste disposal facilities. EPD did not maintain a separate record on the quantity of flytipped construction waste handled for 2005 and before. It is therefore not possible to compare the situation before and after the implementation of the charging scheme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 14 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)071

Question Serial No.

1791

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : According to the Estimates for 2007, the strategic landfills will receive 5 410 000 tonnes of waste, representing a decrease of 79 472 tonnes when compared to 2006. Of the estimated decrease in waste, how much will come from domestic waste?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply : The total amount of waste received at the strategic landfills has decreased from 6 452 866 tonnes in 2005 to 5 489 472 tonnes in 2006 mainly due to the reduction of some 887 315 tonnes of construction waste after the implementation of the Construction Waste Disposal Charging Scheme. There was also a reduction of 70 810 tonnes of domestic waste in 2006 as a result of enhanced efforts in waste reduction and recycling. The estimated projection of 5 410 000 tonnes in 2007 has taken into account a further reduction of both construction waste and domestic waste when compared to that in 2006.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)072

Question Serial No.

1792

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
 Department

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
 Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : With respect to the increase of 299.3% (\$724.1 million) in the estimated provision for 2007-08 over the revised estimate for 2006-07, please advise us of the expenditure for providing the one-off grant to encourage early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

In 2007-08, \$700 million has been earmarked for providing the one-off grant to encourage vehicle owners to replace their pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new commercial vehicles complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard, which is now Euro IV emission standard.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
 Transport and Works (Environment) /
 Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 14 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)079

Question Serial No.

0250

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : With respect to the financial provision for the Programme in 2007-08, would the Administration inform us the total expenditure involved in introducing the voluntary emission trading pilot scheme for power plants and its detailed breakdown.

Asked by : Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply :

The implementation framework of the emissions trading pilot scheme for power plants in the Pearl River Delta region was launched on 30 January 2007. The implementation framework sets out the eligibility criteria for participation, trading mechanism, application procedures and monitoring methods. Environmental authorities in Hong Kong and Guangdong will actively introduce the pilot scheme to thermal power plants/power companies in the Pearl River Delta Region, with a view to allowing prospective parties to identify trading partners and drawing up emissions trading agreements. The workload associated for undertaking these duties will be covered by staff of the Department and no separate breakdown of financial provision is possible.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)083

Question Serial No.

1203

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : With regard to the implementation of the plastic shopping bags charging scheme under the Producer Responsibility Schemes, will the Administration provide the estimated expenditure for 2007-08, as well as the details of the charging scheme and the rates, e.g. charging a flat rate for each plastic shopping bag or variable rates for different types of bags?

Asked by : Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply :

The consultancy study on the environmental levy on plastic shopping bags has recently been completed, and we will put forward a specific proposal with the details shortly. The cost of the consultancy study on producer responsibility scheme on plastic shopping bags amounted to \$1,039,200, which was fully paid in 2005-06 and 2006-07. The preparation of legislation will not involve additional expenditure as the work will be absorbed by the Department of Justice and the Environmental Protection Department as part of their normal duties.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)084

Question Serial No.

1340

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : With regard to exploring ways to develop the restored landfills for beneficial uses, what is the plan at this stage? When is the plan expected to be carried out? What expenditure is involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

There are a total of 13 closed landfills in Hong Kong where restoration works have been completed. As the landfills will continue to emit landfill gas and leachate for many years as degradation of waste proceeds, there are considerable constraints on the afteruse of restored landfills, e.g. excessive loading or permanent building structures should be avoided. Recreational uses are considered suitable beneficial uses that can be developed at the restored landfills on condition that they are compatible with the ongoing landfill aftercare work. The Environmental Protection Department is working with other departments and organisations to plan and develop suitable beneficial afteruses at the restored landfills.

The status of the current and planned afteruse development at the closed landfills is summarised in the attached Annex. Currently, the golf driving range at Shuen Wan Landfill and the recreation ground at Sai Tso Wan Landfill are already in operation. The Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps is using the top platform of Tsueng Kwan O Stage II/III Landfill as a model aeroplane training field on weekends and public holidays. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department is carrying out detailed planning work to develop Ngau Chi Wan Landfill as a recreation ground and Jordan Valley Landfill as a park at estimated costs of about \$196 million and \$175 million respectively. The Administration is also working with National Sports Associations to develop afteruses at landfills on a self-financing basis. These include the Hong Kong Football Association to develop a Football Academy at Tseung Kwan O Stage I Landfill, the Hong Kong Cycling Association to develop a BMX park at Gin Drinkers Bay Landfill and the Hong Kong Shooting Association to develop a shooting range at Pillar Point Valley Landfill.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2007

Landfill Afteruse - Current Status

Closed landfill	Current status
Shuen Wan (Tai Po District)	It is currently used as a golf driving range. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is considering the feasibility of inviting the private sector to replace the driving range by a golf course.
Ngau Chi Wan (Wong Tai Sin District)	The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) will develop the site as a recreation ground at an estimated cost of \$196 million. The facility is scheduled to be commissioned in 2010.
Sai Tso Wan (Kwun Tong District)	The recreation ground was opened to the public in April 2004. The facilities include a multi-purpose grass pitch for football and baseball, two baseball batting cages, one children's playing area and a jogging trail.
Ma Yau Tong West (Kwun Tong District)	Part of the site will be used by the Highways Department temporarily as site office and storage area for the construction of noise barriers on Tseung Kwan O Road
Ma Yau Tong Central (Kwun Tong District)	The site was planned to be developed as a rest park. The Government is investigating to develop part of the site as a sitting-out area.
Jordan Valley (Kwun Tong District)	LCSD will develop the site as a park at an estimated cost of \$175 million. The facility is scheduled to be commissioned in 2010.
Tseung Kwan O Stage I (Sai Kung District)	The Hong Kong Football Association is planning to develop a Football Academy on the flat area of the site on a self-financing basis.
Tseung Kwan O Stage II/III (Sai Kung District)	Since August 2004, the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps has been using the upper platform as a model aeroplane training field during Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays. Due to geotechnical constraint of the site, there is no long term committed use.
Ngau Tam Mei (Yuen Long District)	General landscaping has been provided. Given the small size of the site with limited access, the Government is of the view that it should remain as part of the local green scenery.
Ma Tso Lung (North District)	The site was returned to the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals in August 2000 for recreational use.
Siu Lang Shui (Tuen Mun District)	It is part of the Green Belt area. EPD is now considering suitable afteruse in consultation with relevant departments and interested parties.
Gin Drinkers Bay (Kwai Tsing District)	LCSD is examining the feasibility of opening part of the site as a public open space under minor works programme. The Hong Kong Cycling Association (HKCA) is planning to develop a BMX Park for training and competition on the lower flat area of the site on a self-financing basis.
Pillar Point Valley (Tuen Mun District)	The Hong Kong Shooting Association is planning to develop a training and competition ground on the top flat area of the site on a self-financing basis.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)086

Question Serial No.

1342

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The target for the number of days with air pollution index not exceeding 100 will be increased to 315 in 2007 which is higher than the 309 days in 2006, please inform this Committee:

- (a) details of the specific plan to achieve this target?
- (b) the reasons for setting still an estimated number of 50 days with air pollution index exceeding 100?
- (c) whether there are any plans to set up additional roadside air quality monitoring stations? If so, what is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

- (a) To improve local and regional air quality, the Hong Kong SAR Government reached a consensus with Guangdong Provincial Government in April 2002 to reduce, on a best endeavour basis, the emission of four major air pollutants, namely sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, respirable suspended particulate and volatile organic compounds by 40%, 20%, 55% and 55% respectively in the region by 2010, using 1997 as the base year. When these targets are achieved, air quality will improve significantly. The two Governments are now working to achieve these targets. In 2007, the HKSAR Government will :
 - (i) launch a one-off \$3.176 billion grant scheme from 1 April 2007 to provide incentives for the early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I commercial diesel vehicles with Euro IV models;
 - (ii) provide a 30% reduction in first registration tax, subject to a ceiling of \$50,000 per vehicle, to encourage people to purchase vehicles with low emissions and high fuel efficiency;
 - (iii) consult the public on whether legislation should be enacted to ban idling vehicles while waiting;
 - (iv) continue to progressively tighten the emission caps imposed on local power plants, and
 - (v) implement in phases a new regulation to impose limits on the amounts of volatile organic compounds in printing inks, paints and certain consumer products used in Hong Kong starting from 1 April 2007.
- (b) As the above measures take time to be implemented and give effect, we expect the number of days air pollution index exceeding 100 will reduce gradually to around 50 days in 2007.
- (c) The three roadside air quality monitoring stations currently in operation can already provide adequate information regarding street level air quality in urban areas. There is no plan to increase the number of roadside stations.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) / Director
of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)087

Question Serial No.

1343

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : A provision of \$966 million is set aside for 2007-08 to improve the air quality, which represents an increase of 299.3% over 2006-07. Please provide details of the specific programmes.

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

Provision of \$966.0 million for 2007-08 under Programme (2) represents an increase of \$724.1 million (or 299.3%) over the revised estimate for 2006-07. The increase is due to the following –

Items	Description	\$ million
(a)	Provision for the one-off grant to encourage early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard	700.0
(b)	Consulting the public on a legislative ban on idling vehicles	3.4
(c)	Initiatives on air quality improvement including reviewing of air quality objectives and developing a long term air quality management strategy for Hong Kong	6.8
(d)	Proactive control programme on demolition of asbestos in unauthorised building works	2.3
(e)	Enforcement of the new regulation to control emission of volatile organic compounds	2.7
(f)	Increased provision for strengthening the control of emissions from petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles	2.2
(g)	Increased requirement for new equipment for measuring emission from vehicles	3.2
(h)	Additional requirements for other operating expenses including a net creation of two posts	3.5
	Total	724.1

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)088

Question Serial No.

2549

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The Environmental Protection Department will continue to facilitate and promote wider application of renewable energy in 2007-08. What are the specific details of work involved? What are the details of work done before?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-yee, Miriam

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is responsible for the policy formulation work relating to the development of renewable energy while the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) is responsible for the implementation of various initiatives in this area, including organizing programmes to facilitate and promote wider application of renewable energy. On the policy side, the work is carried out by existing resources of the EPD and there is no breakdown on the expenditure for this particular duty. On the implementation side, in 2006-07, EMSD spent \$8.4 million on a series of activities to facilitate and promote the wider application of renewable energy, including:

- (a) conducting a wind measurement programme at Miu Tsai Tun, Tung Lung Chau, and Town Island;
- (b) carrying out renewable energy projects on government premises;
- (c) developing a renewable energy technologies website which provides information on local renewable energy application and development;
- (d) promoting grid connection of renewable energy power system; and
- (e) promoting public awareness on the use of renewable energy.

In 2007-08, EMSD will continue to provide professional support and advice to government bureaux/departments and the private sector on issues relating to the development and promotion of renewable energy in Hong Kong. Major activities include:

- (a) monitoring the work and progress made by Works Departments in deploying renewable energy technologies in public works projects;
- (b) carrying out renewable energy projects for the government premises;
- (c) promoting grid connection of renewable energy power systems;
- (d) launching the renewable energy technologies website; and
- (e) conducting briefings and organizing visits for schools, professional bodies and interested groups, to promote the application of renewable energy technologies.

The estimated expenditure in 2007-08 for the development and promotion of renewable energy by EMSD is \$9.5 million.

In addition, the Government has proposed in the Stage II Consultation Paper on Future Development of the Electricity Market in Hong Kong that a number of initiatives would be taken in the future regulatory regime of power companies to promote the development of renewable energy, including the provision of a relatively higher rate of return for infrastructure for renewable energy.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Post Title _____

Date _____

ANISSA WONG

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) / Director
of Environmental Protection

19 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)089

Question Serial No.

2550

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : With respect to the consultation to be conducted by the Environmental Protection Department in 2007-08 with the stakeholders on proposed measures to control emissions from petrol vehicles, will drivers in general be included in the consultation? If yes, in what ways will their views be collected? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

On proposed measures to control emissions from petrol vehicles, we plan to consult various bodies representing the relevant vehicle owners but not drivers in general. It is because the prime purpose of the proposal is to improve vehicle maintenance, which is a responsibility of vehicle owners.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 14 March 2007

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)090

Question Serial No.

0607

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
 Department

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
 Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The estimate for 2007-08 is \$966 million, representing an increase of 299.3% as compared with the revised estimate for 2006-07. Would the Administration:

- (1) provide an item breakdown of the details and expenditures involved; and
- (2) list out in detail beneficiaries of respective grants, initiatives and provisions.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

Provision of \$966.0 million under Programme (2) represents an increase of \$724.1 million (or 299.3%) over the revised estimate for 2006-07. This is due to the following –

Items	Description	Beneficiaries	\$ million
(a)	Provision for the one-off grant to encourage early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard	Owners of about 74,000 pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles	700.0
(b)	Consulting the public on a legislative ban on idling vehicles	N.A.	3.4
(c)	Initiatives on air quality improvement	N.A.	6.8
(d)	Proactive control programme on demolition of asbestos in unauthorised building works	N.A.	2.3
(e)	Enforcement of the new regulation to control emission of volatile organic compounds	N.A.	2.7
(f)	Increased provision for strengthening the control of emissions from petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles	N.A.	2.2
(g)	Increased requirement for new equipment for measuring emission from vehicles	N.A.	3.2
(h)	Additional requirements for other operating expenses including a net creation of two posts	N.A.	3.5
	Total		724.1

Signature _____
 Name in block letters **ANISSA WONG**
 Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
 Transport and Works (Environment) /
 Director of Environmental Protection
 Date 14 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)092

Question Serial No.

1331

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : As regards the continued facilitation and promotion of wider application of renewable energy, what is the specific work and amount of expenditure involved? How can the Administration ensure a wider application of renewable energy?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is responsible for the policy formulation work relating to the development of renewable energy while the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) is responsible for the implementation of various initiatives in this area, including organizing programmes to facilitate and promote wider application of renewable energy. On the policy side, the work is carried out by existing resources of the EPD and there is no breakdown on the expenditure for this particular duty. On the implementation side, in 2007-08, the EMSD will continue to provide professional support and advice to government bureaux/departments and the private sector on issues relating to the development of renewable energy in Hong Kong. Major activities include:

- (a) monitoring the work and progress made by Works Departments in adopting renewable energy technologies in public works projects;
- (b) carrying out renewable energy projects for the government premises;
- (c) promoting grid connection of renewable energy power system;
- (d) launching the renewable energy technologies website; and
- (e) conducting briefings and organizing visits for schools, professional bodies and interested groups, to promote the application of renewable energy technologies.

The expenditure in 2007-08 for the development and promotion of renewable energy by EMSD is estimated to be \$9.5 million.

In addition, the Government has proposed in the Stage II Consultation Paper on Future Development of the Electricity Market in Hong Kong that a number of initiatives would be made in the future regulatory regime to promote the development of renewable energy, including provide financial incentives to the power companies in the form of a relatively higher rate of return for renewable energy infrastructure.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) / Director
of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 19 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)093

Question Serial No.

1332

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : With regard to the Indicator of providing technical advice to polluters, the number of cases has increased from 4 681 in 2005 to 7 433 in 2006, what are the reasons? Has the Government offered more specific proposals and plans to polluters, so as to ensure that they could comply with the standards and guidelines on air quality objectives? If so, what are the details and estimated expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The number of technical advice in 2006 related mostly to the asbestos abatement programme. It has increased significantly in the year largely because of the massive clearance operation of unauthorized building works initiated by the Buildings Department. A lot of such clearance work involved asbestos containing materials.

Regarding the asbestos abatement programme, leaflets in English and Chinese are distributed to the concerned owners to advise them of the need to appoint registered asbestos contractor to carry out the work in accordance with the requirements stipulated in the Air Pollution Control Ordinance when conducting the demolition works.

To assist and facilitate polluters in complying with regulatory requirements and going beyond compliance, the Environmental Protection Department has dedicated teams to advise trade and industry on environmental compliance and management. The resources deployed to environmental compliance promotion and assistance activities in all media amount to \$5.8 million. There is no breakdown for the particular duty on the Air programme as these activities are organized on an integrated basis to maximise cost-effectiveness.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)094

Question Serial No.

1333

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : As regards the continued promotion of incorporation of environmental considerations into major policies and strategies at the earliest possible stage, what are the specific work and estimated expenditure involved in 2007-08? On the other hand, are any green groups being consulted before the Government processes applications under the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance so as to pre-empt environmental problems? If yes, what are the details and estimated expenditure involved? If no, why?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department will continue to promote the application of the environmental guidelines laid down in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines and, where necessary, the conduct of strategic environmental assessment or environmental studies by proponents to address environmental issues at an early stage. In July 2006, the Government promulgated a set of enhanced procedures for environmental protection scrutiny of policy proposals. These enhanced procedures have to be followed by all relevant bureaux and departments involved in the formulation of new major policies that might have environmental implications. The Department is consulted on the strategic environmental assessments conducted by proponents and scrutinizes the findings on environmental implications of proposed policies. The Environmental Assessment Division of the Department is responsible for the review of strategic environmental assessments conducted by proponents as well as the environmental implications of policies and strategies.

Regarding early consultation with green groups, the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau issued a technical circular in September 2003 promoting the application of a continuous public involvement process whereby project proponents would engage the public on major development projects at an early stage of planning before applications are processed under the EIA Ordinance. Proponents are encouraged to consult general members of the public, District Councils, green groups and the Advisory Council on the Environment at an early stage so as to avoid, minimise and control the adverse impacts on the environment. The public engagement forms part of the planning and design of major projects and is to be undertaken by project proponents.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 20 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)095

Question Serial No.

1334

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (2) Air, (4) Water

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : In accordance with the "polluter-pays" principle, are there concrete measures in place to require power plants to make immediate public announcement of incidents that pollute and affect the environment? If yes, what are the details and estimated expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons? Apart from that, are there mechanisms in place for notification and penalization of incidents that pollute the environment? If yes, what are the details and estimated expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

Reporting requirements are in place for the power plants to notify the Administration on environmental pollution incidents.

The power plants have to notify the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) under the specified process licence issued under the Air Pollution Control Ordinance, of the occurrence of any malfunction or breakdown of the air pollution control equipment which cause any exceedance of the emission limit values set out in the licence. For water pollution incidents, the power plants have to notify the EPD of the occurrence of any accidental discharge or any emergency bypass or an overflow of untreated effluent under the Water Pollution Control Ordinance.

Furthermore, there are standing requirements in reporting a marine oil spill to Marine Department (MD) and in reporting tank leakages involving fire risk to Fire Services Department (FSD) under the Shipping and Port Control Ordinance and the Dangerous Goods (General) Regulations respectively.

Pollution incidents committed by the power plants may lead to prosecutions under the various pollution control legislations. The power plants may also be required to pay for the cost of cleaning up.

Whilst there is no statutory requirement under the existing environmental legislation framework to inform the public of major environmental pollution incident, if the pollution of the waters caused by oil spill or other substances affects the nearby beach water quality or the ecology of the water body, the MD and EPD will, according to the information available, notify the relevant departments to take appropriate actions and inform the public as soon as possible.

The EPD is now discussing with the power companies for the formulation of a set of guidelines, requiring them to notify the EPD in addition to the relevant government departments as stipulated by law, and take initiative to inform the public accordingly in the event of environmental pollution incident at their power plants. EPD deploys existing resources to handle the work and there is no breakdown on the expenditure involved for this particular duty.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

ANISSA WONG

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) / Director
of Environmental Protection

16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)096

Question Serial No.

0372

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : With regard to the legislative progress of introducing producer responsibility schemes, please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the work and amount of expenditure involved in developing relevant legislations for each of the three types of waste, namely electrical and electronic equipment, vehicle tyres and plastic shopping bags in the 2006-07 financial year, given that the Government will initiate the legislative work on respective producer responsibility schemes in 2007-08 in accordance with A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste. Please also inform this Council of the legislative timetable on such and the estimated expenditure involved in 2007-08; and
- (b) the breakdown by type the expenditure and details of work expected to be involved in the next three years (2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 financial years) in developing producer responsibility schemes for beverage containers and rechargeable batteries.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Chu-ming, Martin

Reply :

- (a) As set out in "A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014)", we will introduce a Product Eco-responsibility Bill (PER Bill) to provide a legal framework for implementing producer responsibility schemes (PRSs). Our proposal on the PER Bill was discussed at the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs in April 2006 and Panel Members indicated that they would like to consider the PER Bill together with individual PRSs. In this regard, we have recently completed a study of the environmental levy on plastic shopping bags, and will introduce a specific proposal shortly. Subject to the support of the public and Members, we hope to introduce the PER Bill into the Legislative Council within this year. The cost of the consultancy study on PRS on plastic shopping bags amounted to \$1,039,200, which was fully paid in 2005-06 and 2006-07. The preparation of PRS legislation will not involve additional expenditure as the work will be undertaken by the Department of Justice and the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) as part of their normal duties.

We are evaluating different PRS options for waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) and will seek views from the relevant trade on feasible schemes. The estimated expenditure for the study on developing the PRS on WEEE is \$0.46 million to be payable over 2006-07 and 2007-08. As for vehicle tyres, we are exploring with the tyre industry on the feasibility of recovering and recycling tyres by the trade itself. This is being undertaken by EPD staff as part of their normal duties and will not incur additional expenditure in 2006-07 and 2007-08.

- (b) We will examine feasible PRS options for beverage containers and rechargeable batteries with due consideration to overseas experience and the effectiveness of existing initiatives such as the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Programme. The expenditure in the next three years will depend on the scope of the study to be undertaken.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) / Director
of Environmental Protection

Date _____

13 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)097

Question Serial No.

0373

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : As regards the introduction of a charging scheme for municipal solid waste with variable rates mentioned in the Programme, please inform this Committee:

- (a) the details and expenditure involved in 2006 in studying the introduction of such scheme.
- (b) According to A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste, the government will introduce the bill on the charging scheme for municipal solid waste with variable rates in 2007. Would the government expect the relevant legislation be introduced within schedule? If yes, please state the time of introduction. If no, what is the reason?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Chu-ming, Martin

Reply :

- (a) A three month trial scheme to examine the logistical arrangements for waste recovery and disposal in 20 housing estates of different settings was completed in the first quarter of 2007. The trial scheme examined the use of different sizes of "designated bags" for disposal of non-recyclable domestic wastes. Some of the participating estates also tried out the use of "food waste bags" to separate food waste from domestic waste. Findings and feedback of the trial scheme are being collated through quantitative surveys, a questionnaire survey and a series of view sharing workshops. They will be used in the ongoing feasibility study of introducing a charging scheme for municipal solid waste. The expenditure incurred for the trial scheme in 2006-07 was around \$3.8 million.
- (b) As stated in "A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014)", introduction of a municipal solid waste charging scheme is a major initiative which has territory-wide implications. We aim to complete the feasibility study of introducing a charging scheme with variable rates in the second half of 2007. We will consult the public on the practicable options before we introduce the relevant legislation into the Legislative Council.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

12 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)098

Question Serial No.

0374

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Please provide the figures of prosecution cases of the following offences by the nature of waste:

- (a) item breakdown and details of the 49 cases of waste import and export involved in 2006. What are the figures of successful prosecution and their penalties?
(b) item breakdown and details of the 9 cases of illegal deposit of waste involved in 2006. What are the figures of successful prosecution and their penalties?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Chu-ming, Martin

Reply :

- (a) In 2006, EPD proceeded with a total of 49 import and export prosecution cases under Sections 20A, 20B and 20F of the Waste Disposal Ordinance. Out of the 49 cases, there were 37 convictions. The details of these 49 prosecution cases are as follows:

Waste Type	No of Prosecution Cases	No. of Cases Convicted	Range of Penalty
Import waste cathode ray tubes without permit	22	14	Fine: \$2,000 - \$80,000
Import waste batteries without permit	8	6	Fine: \$8,000 - \$60,000
Import other waste types for disposal without permit	4	4	Fine: \$10,000 - \$30,000
Wilfully obstruct authorised officers in the exercise of their duty	1	1	Fine: \$4,000
Export waste cathode ray tubes, without permit	11	9	Fine: \$2,000 - 5,000, Community service orders: 160 – 200 hrs Imprisonment: 6 months suspended for 2 years
Export waste mineral oils without permit	3	3	Imprisonment: 2 months suspended for 18 months

- (b) In 2006, EPD proceeded with a total of 9 flytipping prosecution cases under Section 16(a) of the Waste Disposal Ordinance, and the conviction rate was 100%. The details of these 9 cases are as follows:

Waste Type	No of Prosecution Cases	No. of Cases Convicted	Range of Penalty
Construction Waste	8	8	Fine: \$3,000 - \$10,000
Chemical Waste	1	1	Fine: \$3,000

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) / Director
of Environmental Protection

Date 13 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)099

Question Serial No.

0557

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works
(Environment)/ Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : As regards the issue of regional air pollution, please inform this Committee:

- (a) the result of the 'cleaner production technical support pilot project' introduced by the Government and the Hong Kong Productivity Council in November 2006. What is the provision earmarked for the project in 2007-08?
- (b) whether the Government will consider expanding the above pilot project by setting up a matching fund jointly operated by private enterprises and the Government, providing subsidies to factory operators in the Mainland so as to achieve the target of relieving regional air pollution.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Chu-ming, Martin

Reply :

The cleaner production technical support pilot project is progressing smoothly. The project consultant, the Hong Kong Productivity Council, is closely working with the participating factories with a view to completing detailed cleaner production assessments and to recommend improvement measures for implementation. Provision of about \$1 million has been earmarked for the project in 2007-08.

The Administration's key role is to initiate and promote joint efforts with the industry, especially the small and medium enterprises in the Pearl River Delta region, to develop effective emission reduction measures appropriate to their specific situations. The cleaner production technical support pilot project has been designed to achieve this objective. As regards the proposal for setting up a matching fund, it touches on a host of complex policy issues, such as how it will conform with the polluter-pays principle and how the fund is to be managed. There is currently no plan to expand the pilot project to include a matching fund.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)100

Question Serial No.

0574

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment) / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : With regard to the new nature conservation policy, please inform this Committee:

- (a) whether provisions will be made for the establishment of a nature conservation trust? If so, what is the time schedule and estimated expenditure involved?
- (b) what progress has been made regarding the enhanced conservation of 12 priority sites identified? What are the organizations participating in the work? What results have been achieved?
- (c) what are the details and estimated expenditure involved regarding the implementation and enhancement of the existing nature conservation policy in 2007-08?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Chu-ming, Martin

Reply :

Establishing a nature conservation trust can facilitate the pooling of funds from all sectors of the community for the protection and conservation of the natural heritage of Hong Kong. Some applications received under the Pilot Scheme on Public-private Partnership (PPP) for nature conservation have also proposed the establishment of site-specific trusts to finance the long-term conservation of ecologically sensitive sites. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will examine the feasibility of the suggestion, particularly the sustainability and cost-effectiveness, in considering these applications. We will make reference to the experience of the PPP Pilot Scheme and explore the possibility of establishing a nature conservation trust in Hong Kong.

Three non-governmental organizations, namely the Conservancy Association, the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society and the Tai Po Environmental Association are implementing pilot conservation management agreement projects in Fung Yuen and Long Valley. These two-year pilot projects are scheduled to be completed in end 2007. The progress has been satisfactory since its implementation and more than one million square feet of land is now under active conservation. EPD and AFCD are monitoring their implementation closely. We plan to conduct a comprehensive review on the results of these pilot projects in the second quarter of 2007.

We received six applications under the Pilot Scheme for PPP, which involve land located at Sha Lo Tung, Tai Ho, Wu Kau Tang, Mui Tsz Lam and Mau Ping, Yung Shue O, and Tin Fook Wai. The Government has set up an Inter-departmental Task Force, comprising representatives from departments responsible for conservation, planning, environmental protection and works, to examine the applications.

We will also continue and enhance where appropriate our existing nature conservation measures, including management and protection of country parks, special areas, marine parks, marine reserves and sites of special scientific interest; conservation and management of the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar site; enhancement of biodiversity in country parks and special areas; implementation of a territory-wide survey programme to collect information required for updating an ecological database; provision of nature conservation advice on development proposals, planning studies and environmental impact assessments; monitoring and auditing of ecological mitigation measures as a consequence of development projects; and promoting public awareness of nature conservation.

Regarding Government's nature conservation programme, EPD is responsible for the policy formulation works while AFCD is responsible for the implementation of various initiatives under the nature conservation policy. In 2007-08, \$5.7 million has been earmarked for the "Nature Conservation Programme" under Head 44 - EPD and \$418.8 million has been earmarked for the "Nature Conservation and Country Parks Programme" under Head 22 - AFCD.

Signature	
Name in block letters	ANISSA WONG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment) / Director of Environmental Protection
Date	14 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)101

Question Serial No.

0575

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (4) Water

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Regarding the indicators concerning "inland water sampling points" and the water quality of sampling points, please inform this Committee:

- (a) the locations of all the sampling points and their classifications;
- (b) reasons for some sampling points being classified as "bad" or "very bad", and the measures to be implemented by the Government to improve water quality. What are the details of these measures and the estimated expenditure for such?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Chu-ming, Martin

Reply :

(a) The locations of the 82 sampling stations for the 35 major inland watercourses (rivers and major storm channels) across the territory and their corresponding Water Quality Index gradings are depicted at Annex.

(b) In 2006, 14% of the sampling stations were classified as "bad" or "very bad" according to the Water Quality Index. Most of them are located in the North and the Yuen Long Districts. The poor water quality of these stations is mainly due to pollution from livestock farms and unsewered village houses.

To tackle pollution from unsewered villages houses the Government plans to invest approximately \$2.1 billion in village sewerage over the next seven to eight years to extend the public sewerage system to unsewered areas. The Environmental Protection Department will continue to require village house owners to connect to a public sewer as soon as it becomes available, or maintain efficient operation of their septic tanks so as to minimise pollution from village areas.

In addition, the Government has separately initiated two Voluntary Surrender Schemes for poultry and pig farmers in 2005 and 2006 respectively to invite them to surrender their livestock keeping licences. Depending on the take-up rate it is likely that the resultant reduction in livestock farms will also bring about a significant reduction in the pollution discharged.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

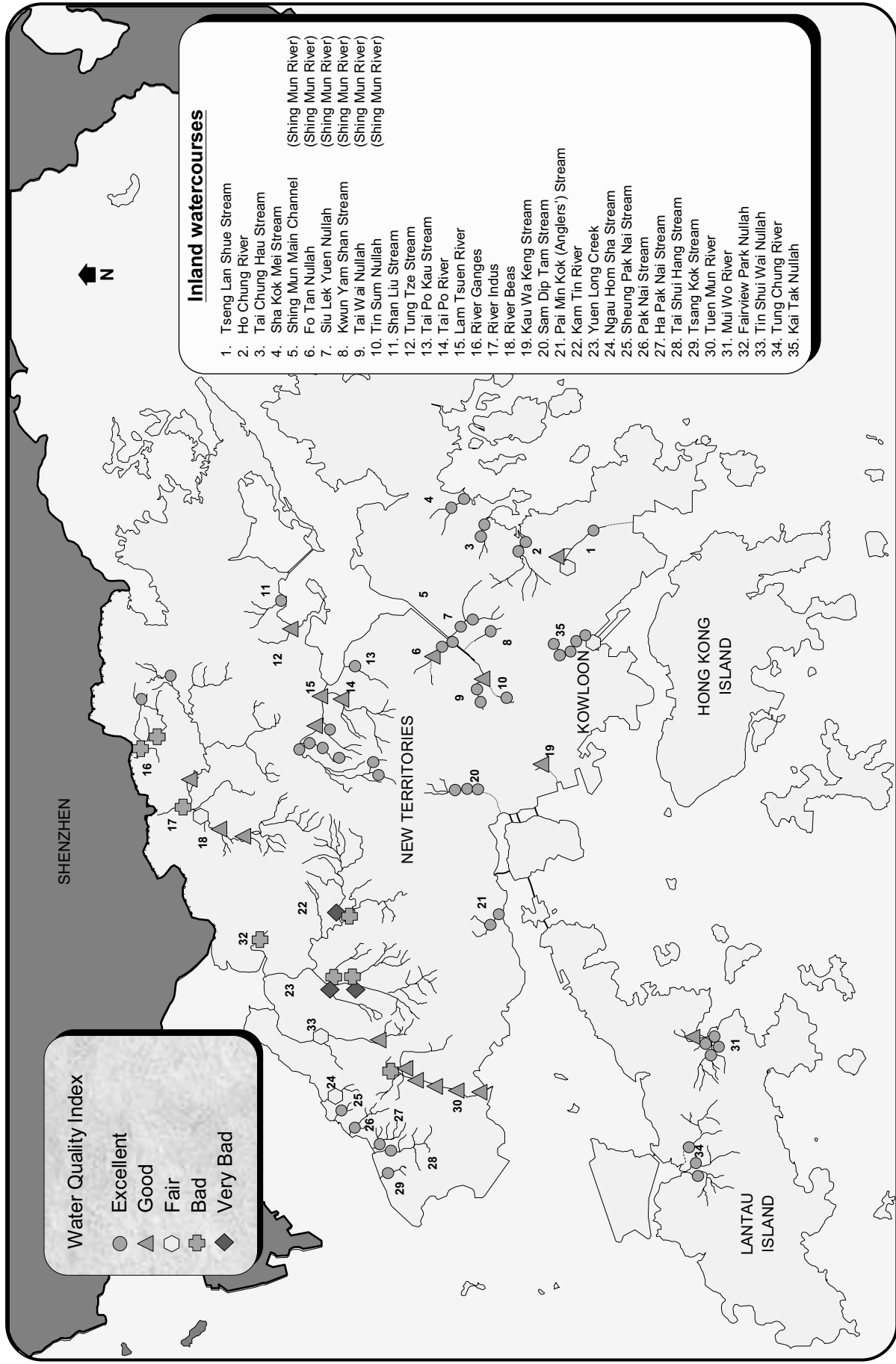
ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2007



Water Quality Index

- Excellent
- △ Good
- Fair
- ◇ Bad
- ⊕ Very Bad

Inland watercourses

1. Tseng Lan Shue Stream
2. Ho Chung River
3. Tai Chung Hau Stream
4. Sha Kok Mei Stream
5. Shing Mun Main Channel
6. Fo Tan Nullah
7. Siu Lek Yuen Nullah
8. Kwun Yam Shan Stream
9. Tai Wai Nullah
10. Tin Sum Nullah
11. Shan Liu Stream
12. Tung Tze Stream
13. Tai Po Kau Stream
14. Tai Po River
15. Lam Tsuen River
16. River Ganges
17. River Indus
18. River Beas
19. Kau Wa Keng Stream
20. Sam Dip Tam Stream
21. Pai Min Kok (Anglers') Stream
22. Kam Tin River
23. Yuen Long Creek
24. Ngau Hom Sha Stream
25. Sheung Pak Nai Stream
26. Pak Nai Stream
27. Ha Pak Nai Stream
28. Tai Shui Hang Stream
29. Tsang Kok Stream
30. Tuen Mun River
31. Mui Wo River
32. Fairview Park Nullah
33. Tin Shui Wai Nullah
34. Tung Chung River
35. Kai Tak Nullah

Major inland waters in Hong Kong and the Water Quality Index (WQI) gradings of 82 monitoring stations in 2006

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)102

Question Serial No.

0576

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : With regard to improving the problem of vehicle emissions, please inform this Committee:

- (a) the timetable, details and estimated expenditure involved in the proposed legislative ban on idling vehicles;
- (b) other than the grant to assist owners to switch to Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles and the tax relief for environmental friendly cars, will the Government have other measures to reduce vehicle emissions in the coming 3 years? What are the details and estimated expenditure involved?
- (c) will the Administration consider more stringent measures to improve the problem of vehicle emissions, such as a legislative ban to prohibit pre-Euro or Euro I vehicles from using the roads by phases? If so, what are the details and implementation timetable for such measures? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Chu-ming, Martin

Reply :

- (a) We plan to consult the public around mid-2007 about banning idling vehicles from running their engines. Taking into account the outcome of consultation, we will decide on the way forward. \$3.4 million has been earmarked for this initiative.
- (b) We are preparing a proposal to strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and LPG vehicles by using roadside remote sensing equipment and dynamometer for emission testing. We will consult the affected parties around mid-2007. \$4.7 million has been earmarked in 2007-08 for the initiative.

We are also studying the feasibility of introducing Euro V requirements for motor vehicle fuels and the emissions of newly registered vehicles in 2009 in tandem with the European Union. Expenditure involved will be absorbed by existing provision.

- (c) The Administration has no plan to ban the use of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles on the road. However, we will continue to explore effective new or enhanced measures to reduce emissions from motor vehicles to improve air quality.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

ANISSA WONG

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)103

Question Serial No.

0577

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : With respect to the substantial triple increase in the Estimate for 2007-08 as compared to the revised estimate for 2006-07, would the Administration inform this Committee:

- (a) the respective estimated expenditure for the incentive scheme to encourage early replacement of diesel commercial vehicles, consulting the public on a legislative ban on idling vehicles, initiatives on air quality improvement, the proactive control programme on demolition of asbestos in unauthorised building works and enforcement of the new regulation to control emission of volatile organic compounds.
- (b) details of the initiatives on air quality improvement and the respective amount of expenditure involved in launching each of these initiatives.
- (c) details of the comprehensive study to review Hong Kong's Air Quality Objectives with a view to developing a long-term strategy and its estimated expenditure. Whether the latest standard used by the World Health Organisation be adopted as the local air quality objectives. If yes, what is the implementation timetable? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Chu-ming, Martin

Reply :

- (a) The estimated expenditure for the respective initiatives are as follows:
 - (i) incentive scheme to encourage early replacement of diesel commercial vehicles (\$700 million)
 - (ii) consulting the public on a legislative ban on idling vehicles (\$3.4 million)
 - (iii) initiatives on air quality improvement (\$6.8 million)
 - (iv) proactive control programme on demolition of asbestos in unauthorised building works (\$2.3 million)
 - (v) enforcement of the new regulation to control emission of volatile organic compounds (\$2.7 million)
- (b) The initiative on air quality improvement includes a study on review of air quality objectives and development of a long-term air quality management strategy, as well as other development work of new air quality improvement measures. The total budget in 2007-08 is \$6.8 million.
- (c) The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) plans to commission an 18-month study in the second quarter of 2007 to review Hong Kong's Air Quality Objectives and develop a long-term air quality management strategy. The study will examine, among other things, the new air quality guidelines issued by the World Health Organization in October 2006, as well as other latest international findings. Upon completion of the study in 2008, EPD will launch a comprehensive public engagement process so as to finalize reviewing the Air Quality Objectives and development of the long-term air quality management strategy within 2009. EPD has earmarked \$4.2 million in 2007-08 for conducting the study.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) / Director
of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)104

Question Serial No.

1184

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : With respect to the Action Blue Sky which has been launched to improve the air quality, what are the details of the measures to be taken in 2007-08? What is the expenditure for reducing emissions from public vehicles? What are the details?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie

Reply :

The Action Blue Sky is a publicity and educational campaign organized in 2006-07 to appeal for the community's support in improving our air quality. In 2007-08, the Environmental Protection Department will continue to organize a wide range of public education activities featuring various clean-air initiatives, including publicity programmes through the mass media, Announcements in the Public Interest, workshops and seminars, roving exhibitions, etc. The scope of these activities will be similar to that of previous year and the budget for these activities in 2007-08 is estimated to be around \$6 million.

To help reduce emissions from vehicles, we will introduce an incentive scheme by offering a one-off grant to encourage early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard, which is currently Euro IV standard. We have earmarked \$700 million for the purpose in 2007-08. Eligible vehicle owners of public light buses and non-franchised public buses can apply for the grant under the incentive scheme.

Apart from the above, we will conduct public consultation/study to pave way for introducing measures to help reduce emissions from vehicles –

- (a) conducting a public consultation on banning idling vehicles from running their engines in around mid-2007. Taking into account the outcome of consultation, we will decide on a way forward. \$3.4 million has been earmarked for this initiative;
- (b) consulting the affected parties on a proposal to strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and LPG vehicles in around mid-2007. \$4.7 million has been earmarked in 2007-08 for this initiative; and
- (c) carrying out a feasibility study for introducing Euro V requirements for motor vehicle fuels and the emissions of newly registered vehicles in 2009 in tandem with the European Union. Expenditure involved will be covered by existing provision.

As both private and public vehicles are covered by the consultation/study, we cannot give a breakdown of the expenditure specifically set aside for public vehicles under items (a) to (c).

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	ANISSA WONG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment) / Director of Environmental Protection
Date	15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)105

Question Serial No.

1319

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : What are the details and expenditure involved in the facilitation and promotion of wider application of renewable energy for 2006-07? What are the details and estimated expenditure involved in this aspect of work for 2007-08?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is responsible for the policy formulation work relating to the development of renewable energy while the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) is responsible for the implementation of various initiatives in this area, including organizing programmes to facilitate and promote wider application of renewable energy. On the policy side, the work is carried out by existing resources of the EPD and there is no breakdown on the expenditure for this particular duty. On the implementation side, in 2006-07, EMSD spent \$8.4 million on a series of activities to facilitate and promote the wider application of renewable energy, including:

- (a) conducting a wind measurement programme at Miu Tsai Tun, Tung Lung Chau, and Town Island;
- (b) carrying out renewable energy projects on government premises;
- (c) developing a renewable energy technologies website which provides information on local renewable energy application and development;
- (d) promoting grid connection of renewable energy power system; and
- (e) promoting public awareness on the use of renewable energy.

In 2007-08, EMSD will continue to provide professional support and advice to government bureaux/departments and the private sector on issues relating to the development and promotion of renewable energy in Hong Kong. Major activities include:

- (a) monitoring the work and progress made by Works Departments in deploying renewable energy technologies in public works projects;
- (b) carrying out renewable energy projects for the government premises;
- (c) promoting grid connection of renewable energy power systems;
- (d) launching the renewable energy technologies website; and
- (e) conducting briefings and organizing visits for schools, professional bodies and interested groups, to promote the application of renewable energy technologies.

The estimated expenditure in 2007-08 for the development and promotion of renewable energy by EMSD is \$9.5 million.

In addition, the Government has proposed in the Stage II Consultation Paper on Future Development of the Electricity Market in Hong Kong that a number of initiatives would be taken in the future regulatory regime of power companies to promote the development of renewable energy, including the provision of a relatively higher rate of return for infrastructure for renewable energy.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Post Title _____

ANISSA WONG

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) / Director
of Environmental Protection

Date _____

19 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)106

Question Serial No.

1320

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : With regard to the plan to launch a comprehensive study to review Hong Kong's Air Quality Objectives with a view to developing a long-term strategy on air quality management in 2007-08, what are the details and estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) plans to commission an 18-month study in the second quarter of 2007 to review Hong Kong's Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) and develop a long-term air quality management strategy. The estimated expenditure of the study in 2007-08 is \$4.2 million. The study will review and characterize the current state of air quality in Hong Kong; examine the different reasonings of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Environmental Protection Agency of the United States in devising their respective air quality guidelines or standards; identify specific measures required and options available to achieve interim targets and revised standards; assess the implications of implementing the measures identified under different options; devise practicable options to revise Hong Kong's AQOs and identify strategies and measures required in the form of action plan to achieve the revised AQOs; and review the need and means to harmonize air quality monitoring data with other economically advanced cities to facilitate fair comparison. On 27 November 2006, we consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs. Upon completing the study by end 2008, we plan to launch a thorough public engagement process so as to finalize the new AQOs and the required long-term strategy on air quality management within 2009.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)107

Question Serial No.

1321

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Is there any plan to introduce the use of environment friendly cars driven by electricity or natural gas within the Government in 2007-08? If yes, what is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

The Government will give priority to environment friendly cars when replacing vehicles in 2007-08 according to the list of environment friendly models compiled and published by the Environmental Protection Department, subject to availability of suitable models in the market and operational and resource considerations. The Government will continue to monitor the development and availability of electricity or natural gas driven environment friendly cars to explore the feasibility of introducing them in the Government fleet.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)110

Question Serial No.

1652

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : What are the details and expenditure involved in implementing the territory-wide Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste in 2006-07? What are the details of work and the estimated expenditure involved in 2007-08?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is working closely with the property management sector and resident organisations in promoting the territory-wide Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste. Through meetings, experience sharing forums as well as information from technical guidelines and pamphlets, property managers and residents would learn how to implement source separation of waste in their estates and buildings. Staff from EPD are deployed to visit individual housing estates to enlist their participation and provide on-site technical advice. Community groups are also engaged to promote source separation of waste in different districts. The amount of expenditure in 2006-07 is \$7.4 million. In 2007-08, we will continue with the above work and strengthen our promotional efforts to further increase the number of participating estates. The estimated expenditure in 2007-08 is \$ 8.2 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)111

Question Serial No.

1653

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : What are the details and expenditure involved in reducing solid waste in 2006-07? What are the details of work and the estimated expenditure involved in 2007-08?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

In 2006-07, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) implemented many waste reduction programmes. The major ones included "Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste", "Wastewi\$e Scheme", "Rechargeable Battery Recycling Programme" and "Recovery Programme for Waste Computers and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)". These programmes covered different types of waste and targeted at the key sources of waste from domestic, commercial and industrial sectors.

The "Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste" aims to widen the types of recyclables to be collected and to raise the recycling rate at domestic premises by providing suitable facilities on each floor to make it more convenient for residents to separate out the recyclable waste for recycling. The "Wastewi\$e Scheme" provides guidance and support to help companies and organizations in Hong Kong to implement effective measures to reduce waste generated within their premises as well as from their services and activities. The "Rechargeable Battery Recycling Programme" and "Recovery Programme for Waste Computers and WEEE" focus on collecting and recycling rechargeable batteries and electronic waste to reduce their disposal at landfills.

The total expenditure is mainly for hire of services to carry out the above programmes on waste reduction. In 2006-07, this was estimated to be \$12 million. EPD will continue to implement these programmes in 2007-08 and the estimated expenditure is about \$14 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

19 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)112

Question Serial No.

0393

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : With regard to waste management, please inform this Council:

- (a) the name and total number of housing estates participating in the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste, the population involved, as well as their respective amount of recovery, volume of waste reduced and income received from the sale of recovered waste in 2006-07.
- (b) the change in the participation rate in 2006-07?
- (c) the estimated expenditure for the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste in 2007-08?

Asked by : Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply :

- (a) As at end February 2007, a total of 520 housing estates have signed up to join the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste. This represents 705 000 households involving a population of around 2 110 000. A list of the 520 estates is attached at the Annex. In general, the results from participating estates are encouraging with an overall 51% increase in the quantity of recyclables collected and a 3-4% reduction in the amount of waste disposed of. The Environmental Protection Department does not require the estates to provide information on the amount of income they have received from the recovered recyclables, which could be in the order of several thousand dollars every month or more for large housing estates.
- (b) The number of participating estates has increased by about 116% from 241 in February 2006 to 520 in February 2007.
- (c) The estimated expenditure for the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste in 2007-08 is about \$8.2 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

13 March 2007

**List of housing estates participating in
the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste**

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
1	10 Lok Fung Path	15	Castle Peak Government Quarters
2	122 Pokfulam Road	16	Chai Wan Fire Services Rank & Fire Married Quarters
3	1-3 Lee Kung Street Customs & Excise Staff Quarters	17	Chai Wan Police Married Quarters
4	135 Tai Hang Road	18	Chater Hall
5	23 Homantin Hill Road	19	Cloudridge
6	25 Park Road	20	Dills Corner Garden
7	2-8, 9-11 Mansfield Road	21	Elizabethan Court
8	47 Sassoon Road	22	Ex-British Military Hospital Quarters
9	6 Lok Fung Path	23	Ex-Cheung Sha Wan Abattoir Staff Quarters
10	87-91 Broadcast Drive	24	Fairmont Gardens
11	A Kung Kok Government Quarters	25	Fung Shing Street Disciplined Services Quarters
12	Aurizon	26	Glendale
13	Aurora	27	Green Lane Hall
14	Buxey Lodge	28	Ha Hang Departmental Quarters

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
29	Kwai Fuk Court	44	Sai Ying Pun Post Office Building
30	Kwai Yung Court	45	Sau Mau Ping Disciplined Services Quarters
31	Kwong Yuen Disciplined Service Quarters	46	Sheung Shui Disciplined Services Quarters
32	Lai King Disciplined Services Quarters	47	Sheung Shui Police Married Quarters
33	Lai King Terrace Staff Quarters	48	Shun Lee Disciplined Services Quarters
34	Mount Butler Quarters	49	Shun Yung Street Immigration Services Officers Quarters
35	Nairn House	50	Skek Kip Mei Staff Quarters
36	NT Depot Police Married Quarters	51	Stanley Junior Staff Married Quarters
37	Old Bailey Street Police Married Quarters	52	TMT Government Holiday Bungalows
38	Pamela Youde Hospital Staff Quarters	53	Tseung Kwan O Fire Service Quarters
39	Pik Uk Correctional Services Quarters	54	Tsing Chau Road Customs & Excise Inspectors Married
40	Po Lo Che Government Quarters	55	Tsing Chung Koon Road Government Quarters
41	Pokfulam Fire Station Officers Married Quarters	56	Tsing Yi Police Married Quarters
42	Police College Police Married Quarters	57	Victoria Flats
43	Prince of Wales Hospital Staff Quarters(Block E)	58	West Kowloon Disciplined Services Quarters

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
59	Wing Ting Road Fire Services Quarters	73	Bailey Garden
60	Wong Tai Sin Disciplined Services Quarters	74	Banoo Villa
61	Wong Tai Sin Fire Services Quarters	75	Bauhinia Garden
62	Yuen Long Police Married Quarters	76	Bauhinia Garden
	Private Housing	77	Bay View Garden
63	1 Lion Rock Road	78	Bayshore Apartments
64	127 Repulse Bay Road	79	Bayshore Towers
65	18 Farm Road	80	Beaulieu Peninsula
66	45 Island Road	81	Bel Air Heights
67	8 Verbena Road	82	Belair Gardens
68	8 Waterloo Road	83	Belair Monte
69	Aberdeen Centre	84	Belvedere Garden (Phase 2)
70	Academic Terrace	85	Beneville
71	Aegean Coast	86	Beverly Hill
72	Aldrich Garden	87	Beverly Villas

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
88	Birchwood Place	103	Cayman Rise
89	Blessings Garden Phase II	104	Chelsea Heights
90	Blossom Garden	105	Cheong Ming Building
91	Botania Villa	106	Chermain Heights
92	Braemar Hill Mansions	107	Cherry Court
93	Broadview Court	108	Chestwood Court
94	Broadview Garden (Block 1-5)	109	Cheung Shing Court
95	Cambridge Court	110	Cheung Wo Court
96	Cameo Court	111	Chevalier Garden
97	Cape Mansions	112	Chi Fu Fa Yuen
98	Casa Marina I	113	Ching Lai Court
99	Casa Marina II	114	Ching Tai Court
100	Cascades	115	Ching Wah Court
101	Castello	116	Ching Wang Court
102	Cavendish Heights	117	Choi Fung Court

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
118	Choi Ha Estate	133	Crowfields Court
119	Choi Ming Court	134	Curio Court
120	Circle Apartment	135	Dawning Views
121	Circle Lodge	136	DeerHill Bay
122	City One Shatin	137	Discovery Bay
123	Clear Water Bay Apartments	138	Dynasty Court
124	Clovelly Court	139	Dynasty Heights
125	Clover Lodge	140	East Point City
126	Concord Building	141	Eastbourne Court
127	Connaught Garden	142	Elegance Garden
128	Convention Plaza Apartments	143	Ellery Terrace
129	Coral Garden	144	Euston Court
130	Coronet Court	145	Evergreen Place
131	Covent Garden	146	Fairview Heights
132	Cronin Garden	147	Fanling Garden

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
148	Fanling Town Centre	163	Golden Dragon Garden
149	Fiori	164	Golden Lion Garden Phase II
150	Flora Plaza	165	Goldwin Heights
151	Flora Tower	166	Grand Deco Tower
152	Flora Villa	167	Grand Del Sol
153	Florence Plaza	168	Grand Excelsior
154	Foo Tat Building	169	Grand Horizon
155	Fortune Garden	170	Grand Palisades
156	Fu Ning Garden	171	Grand Regentville
157	Fuller Gardens (Phase I)	172	Grand View Garden
158	Fung Lai Court	173	Greenery Place
159	Galaxia	174	Greenery Villas I
160	Gallant Court	175	Greenery Villas II
161	Garden Rivera	176	Greenfield Garden
162	Glamour Garden	177	Greenfield Terrace

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
178	Greenview Court	193	Hing Tin Estate
179	Greenview Garden	194	Hing Wong Building
180	Greenview Gardens	195	Hiu Lai Court
181	Greenway Terrace	196	Hong Lok Yuen
182	Hampton Place	197	Hong Nga Court
183	Handsome Court	198	Hong Pak Court
184	Hanford Garden	199	Hong Shui Court
185	Happy Villa	200	Hong Sing Garden
186	Harbour Heights	201	Hong Tin Court
187	Harbourfront Landmark	202	Hong Yat Court
188	Harmony Garden (Block 2)	203	Horace Court
189	Hawthorn Garden	204	Horizon Lodge
190	Heng Fa Chuen	205	Illumination Terrace
191	Highland Park	206	Imperial Court
192	Hilltop Gardens	207	Island Harbourview

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
208	Island Place	223	Kent Court
209	Ivy On Belcher's	224	King Nga Court
210	Jade Field Garden	225	King Shing Court
211	Jade Garden	226	King Tsui Court
212	Jardines Lookout Garden Mansion	227	King's Park Hill
213	Jasper Court	228	Ko Chun Court
214	Jubilant Place	229	Kui Fat Building
215	Jubilee Garden	230	Kwong Lam Court
216	Ka Keung Court	231	Kwong Ming Court
217	Ka Lung Court	232	La Cite Noble
218	Ka Tin Court	233	Laguna Verde
219	Kai Tak Garden	234	Lai Yan Court
220	Kam Fat Building	235	Lei King Wan
221	Kam Lung Court	236	Lei On Court
222	Kam Ying Court	237	Les Saisons

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
238	LeSommet	253	Marina Garden
239	Liberte	254	Maritime Bay
240	Lok Hin Terrace	255	Marlborough House
241	Lok Nga Court	256	May Garden
242	Lucky Plaza	257	Mei Chung Court
243	Luk Yeung Sun Chuen	258	Mei Foo Sun Chuen (Phase 4)
244	Lung Cheung Court	259	Merlin Centre
245	Lung Fung Garden	260	Metro City Phase 1
246	Lung Poon Court	261	Metro City Phase 2
247	Lung Tak Court	262	Metro Harbour View
248	Lynwood Court (Phase 5, Kingswood Villas)	263	Metropolis Plaza
249	Majestic Park	264	Miami Beach Towers
250	Manlai Court	265	Ming Nga Court
251	Manor Centre	266	Monte Vista
252	Marigold Gardens	267	Monticello

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
268	Mount Haven	283	Oscar By the Sea
269	Nerine Cove	284	Pacific Palisades
270	New Jade Garden	285	Pacific View
271	New Town Plaza Phase III Residential	286	Palatial Coast - Grand Pacific Views/ Grand Pacific Heights
272	Newton Harbour View Tower 2	287	Palm Springs
273	No 37 Repulse Bay Road	288	Pang Ching Court
274	No.1 Ho Man Tin Hill	289	Parc Oasis (Phase I)
275	No.1 Star Street	290	Parc Oasis (Phase II)
276	No.1 Tai Hang Road	291	Parc Oasis (Phase III)
277	Ocean Court	292	Parc Palais
278	Ocean Shores	293	Park Central
279	Ocean View	294	Park Island
280	Old Peak Mansion	295	Park Vale
281	On Shing Court	296	Park View Garden
282	One Beacon Hill	297	Parkland Villas

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
298	Parkside Villa	313	Ravana Garden
299	Peaceful Mansion	314	Regence Royale
300	Peaksville	315	Regency Park
301	Peninsula Heights	316	Regentville
302	Pine Court	317	Rhine Terrace
303	Po Garden	318	Rhythm Garden
304	Po Hei Court	319	Richland Gardens
305	Po Lai Court	320	Riviera Gardens
306	Po Pui Court	321	Robinson Place
307	Po Shan Mansion Block B	322	Rowen Court
308	Pokfulam Gardens	323	Royal Ascot
309	Portfield Building	324	Royal Peninsula
310	Primrose Court	325	Royal Plams
311	Pristine Villa	326	Ruby Court
312	Radiant Towers	327	San Po Kon Plaza

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
328	Savanna Garden	343	Sherwood Court (Kingwood Villa)
329	Scenecliff	344	Sheung Shui Centre
330	Sceneway Garden	345	Shung Tze Houses
331	Scenic Gardens	346	Siu Hin Court
332	Scenic View	347	Siu Hong Court (Phase 3, 4)
333	Sea Crest Villa Phase 1	348	Siu Kwai Court
334	Seaview Crescent	349	Siu Lun Court
335	Seaview Garden	350	Siu On Court
336	Serenade Cove	351	Skyline Plaza
337	Serenity Park	352	Sorrento
338	Serenity Park Phase II	353	South Bay Garden
339	Serenity Place	354	South Horizon
340	Sereno Verde	355	South Wave Court
341	Sham Wan Towers	356	Splendour Villa
342	Shan Tsui Court	357	Stanley Green

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
358	Starcrest	373	Tak Tin Estate
359	Summit Terrace	374	Tang Court
360	Sun Ho House	375	Tanner Garden
361	Sun Tak House	376	Telford Gardens
362	Sun Yuen Long Centre	377	The Arcadia
363	Sunningdale	378	The Astrid
364	Sunningdale Garden	379	The Bloomsville
365	Sunshine City Phase 3	380	The Colonnade
366	Sunshine City Phase IV(Block E-M)	381	The Floridian
367	Sunshine City,The Tolo Place	382	The Grand Panorama
368	Swiss Towers	383	The Harbourside
369	Tai Hing Gardens Phase II	384	The Hazelton
370	Tai Po Plaza	385	The Leighton Hill
371	Taikoo Shing	386	The Merton
372	Tak Bo Garden	387	The Metropolis

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
388	The Montebello	403	Tin Wang Court
389	The Orchards	404	Tivoli Garden
390	The Palace	405	Tong Ming Court
391	The Paramount	406	Tropicana Court
392	The Parcville	407	Tse Oi Court Stage III
393	The Primrose	408	Tseung Kwan O Plaza
394	The Regalia	409	Tsing Yi Garden
395	The Seacrest	410	Tsuen Kam Centre
396	The Solemar Villas	411	Tsui Chuk Garden
397	The Victoria Towers	412	Tsui King Court
398	The Vista	413	Tsui Lai Garden
399	The Waterside	414	Tsz Oi Court (Phase 1& 2)
400	Tierra Verde	415	Tsz On Court Block A On Yan House
401	Tin Ma Court	416	Tung Chung Crescent
402	Tin Shing Court	417	Tung Yuk Court

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
418	Twin Brook	433	Welland Building
419	Tycoon Court	434	Welland Plaza
420	Uptown Plaza	435	Westlands Court
421	Ventris Court	436	Whampoa Garden (Phase 10)
422	Viking Villas	437	Windsor Heights
423	Villa by the Park	438	Winfield Building
424	Villa Lotto	439	Wing Fat Centre
425	Villa Premiere	440	Wing Tak Mansion
426	Villa Tiara	441	Wo Ming Court
427	Village Gardens	442	Woodland Crest
428	Vision Court	443	Wylie Court
429	Vista Paradiso	444	Yan Ming Court
430	Waterfront South	445	Yan Shing Court
431	Wealth Garden	446	Yee Nga Court
432	Wealthy Court	447	Ying Fuk Court

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
448	Ying Piu Mansion	462	Chun Shek Estate
449	Yoho Town	463	Chung On Estate
450	Yu Chui Court	464	Fortune Estate
451	Yu Tung Court	465	Fu Cheong Estate
452	Yue Man Centre	466	Fu Tai Estate
453	Yue On Court	467	Fu Tung Estate
454	Yue Sun Mansion	468	Hau Tak Estate
455	Yuet Chui Court	469	High Prosperity Terrace
456	Yuet Wu Villa	470	Hing Wah (I) Estate
	Public Housing	471	Hong Tung Estate
457	Broadview Garden	472	Ka Wai Chuen
458	Chak On Estate	473	Kin Ming Estate
459	Cheung Kwai Estate	474	Kwai Fong Estate
460	Cheung Wang Estate	475	Kwong Fuk Estate
461	Choi Fai Estate	476	Kwun Tong Garden Estate

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
477	Lai Tak Tsuen	492	Po Tin Estate
478	Lai Yiu Estate	493	Sai Wan Estate
479	Lee on Estate	494	Sam Shing Estate
480	Lei Yue Mun Estate	495	Sau Mau Ping Estate
481	Lower Wong Tai Sin (II) Estate	496	Sha Kok Estate
482	Lung Tin Estate	497	Shek Lei (1) Estate
483	Ma Hang Estate	498	Shek Lei Estate (II)
484	Ma Tau Wai Estate	499	Shek Yam Estate
485	Mei Lam Estate	500	Shui Pin Wai Estate
486	Nga Ning Court	501	Shun Lee Estate
487	Ngau Wan Estate	502	Siu Sai Wan Estate
488	Oi Tung Estate	503	Sun Tin Wai Estate
489	On Yam Estate	504	Tai Hang Tung Estate
490	Ping Tin Estate	505	Tin Chak Estate
491	Po Tat Estate	506	Tin Shui Estate (I)

No.	Estate	No.	Estate
507	Tin Yat Estate	514	Upper Ngau Tau Kok Estate
508	Tin Yiu (I) & (II) Estate	515	Wah Fu (II) Estate
509	Tin Yuet Estate	516	Wang Tau Hom Estate
510	Tsui Lok Estate	517	Yat Tung (1) Estate
511	Tsz Hong Estate	518	Yat Tung (II) Estate
512	Tsz Lok Estate	519	Yau Tong Estate
513	Tsz Man Estate	520	Yiu Tung Estate

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)113

Question Serial No.

0258

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The amount of chemical waste intake in 2006 exceeds that of 2005 by nearly 10 000 tonnes.
What are the reasons? Is there any measure in place to reduce the generation of chemical
waste? If so, what are the detailed work plan and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Heung-man

Reply :

Chemical waste received at the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre (CWTC) comes from two sources. They are land based chemical waste produced from local commercial and industrial activities and marine based chemical waste (commonly known as MARPOL waste) which is mainly oily waste from ocean going vessels. According to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973 as modified by the Protocol of 1978 (MARPOL Convention), the port authority should provide proper reception service for the MARPOL waste and the CWTC is the only facility in Hong Kong providing such service.

The increase in chemical waste intake at the CWTC in 2006 was mainly due to an increase in the quantity of MARPOL waste received. In 2006, the amount of MARPOL waste received was 31 400 tonnes which was 11 000 tonnes more than that in 2005.

We will continue to review the fees for MARPOL waste in line with the "polluter-pays" principle to provide incentives to the waste producers to implement waste reduction, reuse and recovery. The work involved would be carried out by existing staff and would not incur additional expenditure.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)114

Question Serial No.

0259

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2007-08, a number of proposals are mentioned on waste reduction. Would the Government provide details of each area of work, the respective waste reduction target and the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Heung-man

Reply :

Under "A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) (2005-2014)", the Government aims to reduce the amount of MSW generated in Hong Kong, based on the 2003 levels, by 1% per annum up to the year 2014, and to increase the recovery rate of MSW to 45 % by 2009 and 50% by 2014.

In 2007-08, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to implement the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste. Assistance would be provided to encourage residents to separate waste at source and recover more types of recyclables, so as to further increase domestic waste recovery and reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal. The number of participating housing estates is expected to increase to 700 by the end of 2007. Together with other waste reduction measures, the domestic waste recovery rate could reach 26% by 2012. The estimated expenditure in 2007-08 is about \$8.2 million.

At the same time, the EPD will continue to work with stakeholders and the community to promote waste reduction and recycling. Publicity programmes promoting government initiatives on waste will be launched through the mass media such as television and radio. Workshops, talks, exhibitions, roadshows, outreach activities and visits featuring waste reduction and recycling will be organized. The Environmental Resource Centres will also continue to spread messages on waste reduction and recycling. The estimated expenditure is about \$5.8 million in 2007-08.

A trial scheme to examine the logistical arrangements for waste recovery and disposal in different housing settings was completed in the first quarter of 2007. The information obtained will be used in the ongoing feasibility study of introducing a charging scheme for municipal solid waste. The estimated expenditure for the study in 2007-08 is around \$570,000.

As stated in the 2007-08 Budget, we are considering the introduction of producer responsibility schemes (PRSs) for various products. We have completed the study on the PRS on plastic shopping bags, and will put forward a specific proposal shortly. The objective of the PRS is to implement the "polluter-pays" principle and to reduce the indiscriminate use of plastic shopping bags through economic disincentives. With the consensus and support of the public, we expect that the relevant Bill can be introduced into the Legislative Council within this year. The expenditure involved in the implementation would depend on the detail of the final scheme.

An EcoPark is being developed in two phases in Tuen Mun Area 38 to provide long term land at affordable costs to the environmental and recycling industry. The estimated capital and recurrent expenditures for the construction and operation of the EcoPark in 2007-08 are \$48 million and \$11 million respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) / Director
of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)115

Question Serial No.

1076

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Please provide full details and schedule of conducting the public consultation on a legislative ban on idling vehicles in 2007-08. When will it be completed? How much expenditure and manpower will be involved?

Asked by : Hon. YOUNG Howard

Reply :

We plan to consult the public on banning idling vehicles from around mid-2007 until end-2007. Taking into account the outcome of the consultation, we will decide on the way forward.

We have earmarked \$3.4 million for the consultation exercise and strengthening the publicity programme on promoting "stopping vehicle engines while idling" before introducing the ban. The enhanced publicity will include roadshows targetting at the public and drivers in general, more frequent broadcasting of advisory messages on TV and the radio, particularly at prime time, etc. Other additional work will be absorbed by the existing staff resources as part of their normal duties.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)116

Question Serial No.

1077

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2007-08, it is stated that the department will launch a comprehensive study to review Hong Kong's Air Quality Objectives with a view to developing a long-term strategy on air quality management. Please provide the implementation schedule and resources involved for the study?

Asked by : Hon. YOUNG Howard

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) plans to commission an 18-month study in the second quarter of 2007 to review Hong Kong's Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) and develop a long-term air quality management strategy. The estimated expenditure of the study in 2007-08 is \$4.2 million. The study will review and characterize the current state of air quality in Hong Kong; examine the different reasonings of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Environmental Protection Agency of the United States in devising their respective air quality guidelines or standards; identify specific measures required and options available to achieve interim targets and revised standards; assess the implications of implementing the measures identified under different options; devise practicable options to revise Hong Kong's AQOs and identify strategies and measures required in the form of action plan to achieve the revised AQOs; and review the need and means to harmonize air quality monitoring data with other economically advanced cities to facilitate fair comparison. On 27 November 2006, we consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs. Upon completing the study by end 2008, we plan to launch a thorough public engagement process so as to finalize the new AQOs and the required long-term strategy on air quality management within 2009.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)117

Question Serial No.

1078

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2007-08, it is stated that the department will oversee the implementation of the new nature conservation policy, in particular the pilot scheme on the two new conservation measures, viz. management agreements and public-private partnership. What are the targets to be achieved and how much provisions will be allocated for the work?

Asked by : Hon. YOUNG Howard

Reply :

Pilot Schemes for Public-private Partnership (PPP) and Management Agreements (MA) are the new initiatives proposed under the New Nature Conservation Policy. We received six applications under the Pilot Scheme for PPP, which involve land located at Sha Lo Tung, Tai Ho, Wu Kau Tang, Mui Tsz Lam and Mau Ping, Yung Shue O, and Tin Fook Wai. The Government has set up an Inter-departmental Task Force, comprising representatives from departments responsible for conservation, planning, environmental protection and works, to examine the applications.

Three pilot conservation MA projects are being implemented by non-governmental organizations in Fung Yuen and Long Valley. These two-year pilot projects are scheduled to be completed in end 2007. The progress of these projects has been satisfactory and more than one million square feet of land is now under active conservation. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) are monitoring their implementation closely. We plan to conduct a comprehensive review on the results of these pilot projects in the second quarter of 2007.

We will also continue and enhance where appropriate other nature conservation measures, including management and protection of country parks, special areas, marine parks, marine reserves and sites of special scientific interest; conservation and management of the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar site; enhancement of biodiversity in country parks and special areas; implementation of a territory-wide survey programme to collect information required for updating an ecological database; provision of nature conservation advice on development proposals, planning studies and environmental impact assessments; monitoring and auditing of ecological mitigation measures as a consequence of development projects; and promoting public awareness of nature conservation.

EPD is responsible for the formulation of nature conservation policy, while AFCD is responsible for the implementation of various initiatives under the policy. In 2007-08, \$5.7 million has been earmarked for the "Nature Conservation Programme" under Head 44 – EPD and \$418.8 million has been earmarked for the "Nature Conservation and Country Parks Programme" under Head 22 – AFCD.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) / Director
of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)118

Question Serial No.

1296

Head : 60 – Highways Department Subhead :

Programme : (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer : Director of Highways

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : In 2007-08, the Administration will prepare for the commencement of works for retrofitting of noise barriers on Tseung Kwan O Road, Tsing Tsuen Bridge and Yuen Shin Road. Please provide details about these efforts and the estimated expenditures.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kong-wah

Reply :

The retrofitting of noise barriers, at the above three locations were authorised under the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance and their designs have been substantially completed. We consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs on 26 February 2007 and obtained the Panel's support for the project. We will seek the Public Works Sub-Committee's endorsement on 18 April 2007, and the Finance Committee's approval on 11 May 2007 with regard to the funding application for these three projects. We will invite tenders for the works afterwards. The preparatory work is dealt with by in-house staff and there is no breakdown of the expenditure involved.

The estimated costs of the proposed works are \$129.9 million for the Tsing Tsuen Bridge project, \$142.1 million for the Tseung Kwan O Road project, and \$18.1 million for the Yuen Shin Road project.

Signature _____

Name in block letters WAI CHI SING

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 19 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)119

Question Serial No.

2553

Head : 100 – Marine Department

Subhead :

Programme : (3) Local Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Marine

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The refuse collected from locally licensed and river trade vessels has increased substantially from 1 628 tonnes in 2005 to 1 933 tonnes in 2006. What are the reasons for this?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

The increase was mainly attributed to the new contract arrangements implemented in July 2005. Under the new contract arrangements, there have been improvements including more visits to locally licensed and river trade vessels to collect refuse from them.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ROGER TUPPER**

Post Title _____ Director of Marine

Date _____ 15 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)120

Question Serial No.

2706

Head : 705 Civil Engineering

Subhead (No. & title): 5169DR
Restoration of Northwest New
Territories landfills and Gin
Drinkers Bay landfill-aftercare
work

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : What is the progress of the following project? How will the provision be used in 2007-08?
When is the project expected to complete? Will there be any discrepancy with the
completion date scheduled when the project was approved?

5169DR: Restoration of Northwest New Territories landfills and Gin Drinkers Bay
landfill – aftercare work

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

The Northwest New Territories landfills (NWNTL) comprising Siu Lang Shui, Ma Tso Lung and Ngau Tam Mei landfills, and the Gin Drinkers Bay landfill (GDBL) were closed between 1975 and 1983. At the time of closure, they were not equipped with proper and sufficient environmental protection facilities.

To minimise possible adverse environmental impacts and to render the land suitable for beneficial use in future, construction of restoration facilities at the NWNTL and the GDBL was completed in 2000. The restoration facilities include landfill gas and leachate management systems, an engineered capping layer, a surface water drainage system, improvements to slope stability, landscaping of the landfill and other ancillary works. The first seven-year aftercare work, comprising operation and maintenance of the restoration facilities as well as environmental monitoring, commenced thereafter.

The scope of **5169DR** comprises mainly landfill aftercare work at the said landfills for the second seven-year period which will commence in June 2007. We have made a provision of \$9.806 million in 2007-08 for the aftercare work.

The aftercare work period may last up to 30 years. EPD would carry out environmental review regularly to determine whether the aftercare work needs to continue and when the landfills are completely restored.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	ANISSA WONG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment) / Director of Environmental Protection
Date	14 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)121

Question Serial No.

0803

Head : 705 Civil Engineering

Subhead (No. & title): 5045DR
Restoration of Pillar Point
Valley landfill

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Will the Administration advise on:

- (1) the details and purposes of the project;
- (2) the progress of work in 2006-07 and the percentage of works completed in the whole project;
- (3) the progress of work expected in 2007-08; and
- (4) the expected date of completion of the project.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

- (1) Waste disposed of at landfills is subject to continuous biological degradation process which would last for many years. The waste decomposition produces landfill gas and leachate and causes differential settlement of the landfill surface which may lead to slope stability problems. The Pillar Point Valley Landfill (PPVL) was closed in 1996. At that time, it was not equipped with proper and sufficient environmental protection facilities. The objective of implementing the works under **5045DR** is to restore the PPVL to minimize possible adverse environmental impacts and to render the land suitable for beneficial use in future. The scope of the works comprises -
 - (a) design and construction of restoration facilities including landfill gas and leachate management systems, an engineered capping layer, a surface water drainage system, improvements to slope stability, landscaping of the landfill and other ancillary works; and
 - (b) post-commissioning works, comprising operation and maintenance of the restoration facilities as well as environmental monitoring, for the first seven years upon commissioning of the facilities.
- (2) The design and construction of the restoration facilities were completed in July 2006 and the post-commissioning works commenced thereafter.
- (3) The post-commissioning works of the PPVL will continue throughout 2007-08.
- (4) The design and construction of the restoration facilities were completed in July 2006 and the first seven-year post-commissioning works will end by 2013. The post-commissioning works period may last up to 30 years and EPD would carry out regular environmental review to determine whether the works need to continue beyond 2013 and when the landfill is completely restored.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Post Title _____

Date _____

ANISSA WONG

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

13 March 2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(E)122

Question Serial No.

0804

Head : 705 Civil Engineering

Subhead (No. & title): 5703CL
Development of EcoPark in
Tuen Mun Area 38

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Will the Administration advise on:

- (a) the progress of work in 2006-07 and the percentage of works completed in the whole project;
- (b) the progress of work expected in 2007-08;
- (c) the expected date of completion of the project; and
- (d) the reasons why the estimate for 2007-08 is nearly less than half of the revised estimate in 2006-07.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

- (a) An EcoPark is being developed in two phases in Tuen Mun Area 38 to provide long term land at affordable costs to the environmental and recycling industry. The site formation, main access road and provision of utilities have been substantially completed in 2006-07 representing about 65% of Phase I construction.
- (b) In 2007-08, we will complete the remaining works under EcoPark Phase I, including the administration building, marine berthing area, landscaping and other ancillary facilities.
- (c) The construction work of EcoPark Phase I will be completed in the second half of 2007.
- (d) The provision in 2007-08 covers the costs of the remaining 35% of Phase I works, which amounts to \$48 million. The expenditure for the construction of Phase II will be included in future estimates.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works (Environment) /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2007