

立法會
Legislative Council

Ref : CB2/BC/13/04

LC Paper No. CB(2)417/05-06
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Bills Committee on Waste Disposal (Amendment) Bill 2005

**Minutes of the fifth meeting
held on Tuesday, 25 October 2005 at 4:30 pm
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

- Members present** : Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP (Chairman)
Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai, S.B.St.J., JP
Dr Hon LUI Ming-wah, SBS, JP
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon CHOY So-yuk, JP
Hon LI Fung-ying, BBS, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, MH
Hon LEE Wing-tat
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, SBS, JP
Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, SBS, JP
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
- Members attending** : Hon Ronny TONG Ka-wah, SC
- Public Officers attending** : Environmental Protection Department
Mr FAN Wai-ming, Raymond
Deputy Director of Environmental Protection (2)
Mr LEI Chee-kwong, Patrick
Acting Assistant Director (Waste Management Policy)
Mr NG Yau-wing, Alex
Principal Environmental Protection Officer
(Special Waste & Landfill Restoration)
Mr CHAN Shu-to, Kenneth
Officer-in-charge (Territorial Control)

Dr HA Kwok-kuen, David
Senior Environmental Protection Officer
(Waste Policy) 2

Department of Justice

Ms IP Fung-king, Fanny
Senior Assistant Law Draftsman

Department of Health

Dr HO Mang-yee, Mandy
Principal Medical & Health Officer (5)

Clerk in attendance : Mrs Percy MA
Chief Council Secretary (2)3

Staff in attendance : Miss Monna LAI
Assistant Legal Adviser 7

Mrs Eleanor CHOW
Senior Council Secretary (2)4

Action

I. Confirmation of minutes of meeting
(LC Paper No. CB(2)136/05-06 – Minutes of meeting on 30 September 2005)

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2005 were confirmed.

II. Meeting with the Administration
(LC Paper No. CB(3)571/04-05 – The Bill)

LC Paper No. CB(2)2171/04-05(01) – Marked-up copy of the Bill

LC Paper No. CB(2)2600/04-05(01) – Draft Waste Disposal (Clinical Waste)
(General) Regulation

LC Paper No. CB(2)2600/04-05(02) – Administration's response to
views/concerns of organizations / individuals on the Bill

LC Paper No. CB(2)2638/04-05(01) – Administration's response to the issues
raised by members at the meeting on 26 July 2005

Action

LC Paper No. CB(2)123/05-06(01) – Administration's response to the issues raised by members at the meeting on 14 October 2005

LC Paper No. CB(2)123/05-06(02) – Administration's response to Assistant Legal Adviser's letter dated 28 September 2005)

2. The Bills Committee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).
3. The Administration was requested to –
 - (a) explain the basis for setting the application fee for a clinical waste collection licence at \$19,270 and the licence renewal fee at \$9,320, and how this licence charging scheme compared with that of chemical waste;
 - (b) provide information on the major maintenance works carried out in the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre (CWTC) at Tsing Yi since it commenced operation in 1993 and the costs involved;
 - (c) provide information on the financial provision for major refurbishment and upgrading of facilities in CWTC in the coming 10 years;
 - (d) provide information on the differences between the charges payable by Government to the CWTC operator in the past few years based on actual amount of chemical waste treated and the “fixed minimum payment” arrangement; and
 - (e) provide a substantive response to the proposal of setting up an independent and wide-representation body to monitor the modification works and operation of CWTC.

III. Any other business

4. The Bills Committee noted that the next meeting would be held on 8 November 2005 at 4:30 pm.
5. The meeting ended at 6:37 pm.

**Proceedings of the meeting of the Bills Committee on
Waste Disposal (Amendment) Bill 2005
on Tuesday, 25 October 2005 at 4:30 pm
in Conference Room A of the Legislative Council Building**

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
000217 - 000424	Chairman	Confirmation of minutes of meeting	
000425 - 001029	Adm Chairman	Administration's response to the issues raised by members at the meeting on 14 October 2005 (LC Paper No. CB(2)123/05-06(01))	
001030 - 001146	Adm Chairman	Outstanding issues raised by the Bills Committee at the meeting on 30 September 2005	
001147 - 001422	Adm Chairman Mr WONG Kwok-hing	Discussion on the Administration's response to deputations by subject matters (LC Paper No. CB(2)2600/04-05(02)) <u>Disposal, collection and treatment of clinical waste</u> Guidelines on proper disposal of clinical waste by waste producers and collectors as set out in the Code of Practice (CoP)	
001423 - 002415	Chairman Adm	Operation of authorized collection points Procedure for granting authorization for on-site collection points as set out in section 9 of the Draft Waste Disposal (Clinical Waste) (General) Regulation (the Draft Regulation) Penalty for failure to provide information in respect of clinical waste handled by a person authorized under section 9 of the Draft Regulation (section 12 of the Draft Regulation refers)	

002416 - 003034	Ms Emily LAU Chairman Adm	Reasons for the Hong Kong Dental Association requesting more authorized collection points to be set up and the response of the Hong Kong Medical Association	
003035 - 004035	Mr LEE Wing-tat Chairman Adm	Health and safety risks associated with the provision of collection points and measures to reduce such risks	
004036 - 004824	Dr KWOK Ka-ki Chairman Adm	Rationale for providing and location of collection points for clinics Procedure and criteria for granting authorization for collection points Storage facilities e.g. refrigeration for collection points and duration of storage before transport to the disposal facility	
004825 - 005055	Chairman Mr WONG Kwok-hing Adm	Simplified procedure for obtaining a waste disposal licence or a waste collection licence Time required for obtaining a waste disposal licence or a waste collection licence	
005056 - 005221	Mr WONG Kwok-hing Adm Chairman	Response of the Administration to Hong Kong Polytechnic University's suggestion that laboratory waste should be sterilized before collection	
005222 - 005651	Ms Emily LAU Adm Chairman	Handling of animal carcasses in the event of avian flu outbreak and past experiences of the Administration	
005652 - 010244	Miss CHOY So-yuk Adm Chairman Ms Emily LAU	<u>CoP and training</u> Training programme on clinical waste management organised by the Occupational Safety and Health Council	
010245 - 010853	Chairman Miss CHOY So-yuk Adm	Monitoring on clinical waste management of waste producers and collectors Handling of animal carcasses in the event of avian flu outbreak and past experiences of the Administration	

010854 - 011131	Chairman Adm	<p><u>Charges on disposal of clinical waste</u></p> <p>Charges for collection and transportation of clinical waste to be determined by the market</p> <p>Charges on treatment of clinical waste at the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre (CWTC) at Tsing Yi to be calculated on a cost recovery basis. Initial charge of \$2.38/kg for treatment and disposal of clinical waste at CWTC represented 31% of the variable operation cost, and full cost recovery expected to be achieved in 5-10 years</p>	
011132 - 011551	Ms LI Fung-ying Adm Chairman	Contingency plan to handle unforeseeable circumstances during SARS outbreak, e.g. refusal of waste collectors to collect clinical waste	
011552 - 013133	Miss CHOY So-yuk Adm Chairman	<p>Concern about overcharging of collection fee by waste collectors</p> <p>Timetable for full recovery of the operation cost for treating clinical waste at CWTC</p> <p>Concern about high fees for application for a waste collection licence (\$19,270) and licence renewal (\$9,320)</p> <p>Basis for determining the licence charging scheme for clinical waste</p> <p>Differences between treatment of chemical waste and clinical waste in terms of waste producers and treatment procedures</p>	
013134 - 014014	Dr KWOK Ka-ki Adm Chairman Miss CHOY So-yuk	<p>Proposal to lower the licence fees to attract more people to enter into the market as clinical waste collectors</p> <p>Basis for the licence charging scheme for clinical waste and a comparison with the licence charging scheme for chemical waste</p>	Admin to provide the requested information

014015 - 014303	Ms Emily LAU Adm Chairman	Clarification on charges for disposal of clinical waste at the landfill	
014304 - 014735	Miss CHOY So-yuk Adm Chairman	Monitoring mechanism to ensure clinical waste would not be disposed as municipal waste	
014736 - 020024	Chairman Mr LEE Wing-tat Adm Miss CHOY So-yuk	<p><u>Designation of CWTC to treat clinical waste</u></p> <p>Concerns of Kwai Tsing District Council about designation of CWTC for treatment of clinical waste and the Administration's responses</p> <p>The Administration was requested to provide the following information-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) major maintenance works carried out in CWTC since it commenced operation in 1993 and the costs involved; (b) financial provision for major refurbishment and upgrading of facilities in CWTC in the coming 10 years; (c) differences between the charges payable by Government to the CWTC operator in the past few years based on actual amount of chemical waste treated and the "fixed minimum payment" arrangement; and (d) Administration's substantive response to the proposal of setting up an independent and wide-representation body to monitor the modification works and operation of CWTC <p>Monitoring of disposal of dioxin residues at CWTC between November 2004 and March 2005 by a professor of the Baptist University, an independent assessor</p>	Admin to provide the requested information

020025 - 020211	Chairman Miss CHOY So-yuk	Request of Greenpeace to send an expert to give views concerning the Basel Convention before the Bills Committee	
020212 - 020606	Ms Emily LAU Chairman Adm	Support the proposal of setting up of an independent and wide-representation body to monitor the modification works and operation of CWTC Report by the Administration's representatives attending the recent meeting of the Kwai Tsing District Council at the next meeting of the Bills Committee	
020607 - 20617	Chairman	Date of next meeting	

Note : The audio records of the above proceedings are kept at the LegCo Library

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
21 November 2005