

(By post)

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2537 2740
2899 2249

10 February 2006

Mr Edward CHAN
Campaigner
Greenpeace
3/F, Seaview Commercial Building
21-24 Connaught Road West
Hong Kong

Dear Mr CHAN,

Bills Committee on Waste Disposal (Amendment) Bill 2005

The Bills Committee had carefully considered the following documents at its meetings on 20 December 2005 and 24 January 2006 –

- (a) the Submission dated 16 December 2005 on "Harmonizing Hong Kong's Waste Disposal Ordinance and China's Basel Convention Obligation" from Greenpeace and Basel Action Network;
- (b) the Administration's response to the Submission which was copied to you; and
- (c) the further response to the Administration's comments on the Submission from Greenpeace and Basel Action Network.

In response to the request of the Bills Committee, the Administration has further explained its endeavour in implementing the Basel Convention through the Waste Disposal Ordinance (WDO) and has provided legal advice to confirm that the relevant provisions in the WDO are not inconsistent with the Basel Convention. A copy of the Administration's letter dated 3 February 2006 to the Bills Committee is enclosed for your reference. The legal advice of the International Law Division of the Department of Justice is in Annex 4 to the letter.

In the light of the Administration's response and legal advice, members of the Bills Committee have agreed that it is unnecessary for Mr Jim Puckett of Basel Action Network to make special arrangement to come to Hong Kong to present views to the Bills Committee personally at this stage. Members have also agreed that subject to

the amendments to the Bill to be moved by the Administration, they will support the proposals set out in the Bill, as its passage will boost the protection of public health and provide a safer and healthier living environment to the public.

On behalf of members of the Bills Committee, I write to thank Greenpeace and Basel Action Network for providing detailed submissions to assist the scrutiny work of the Bills Committee. Please also convey our gratitude to Mr Puckett. Should he visit Hong Kong in future and wish to give further views on matters relating to the Basel Convention, he may approach the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council which is tasked to monitor and examine Government policies and issues of public concern relating to environmental and conservation matters.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Audrey EU)
Chairman

Bills Committee on Waste Disposal (Amendment) Bill 2005

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