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18 November, 2004

Clerk to Subcommittee on
Waste Disposal (Designated Waste Disposal Facility)
(Amendment) Regulation 2004 and
Waste Disposal (Charges for Disposal of Construction Waste)
Regulation

Legislative Council Secretariat,
3/F, Citibank Tower,
3 Garden Road, Central,
Hong Kong.

(Attn. Mrs. Mary Tang)

Dear Mrs Tang,

**Subcommittee on
Waste Disposal (Designated Waste Disposal Facility)
(Amendment) Regulation 2004 and
Waste Disposal (Charges for Disposal of Construction Waste) Regulation**

Thank you for your letter of 12 November 2004 inviting our comments on the Waste Disposal (Designated Waste Disposal Facility) (Amendment) Regulation 2004 and Waste Disposal (Charges for Disposal of Construction Waste) Regulation.

Members of the Working Group on Construction Waste were informed about the two regulations at a briefing made by the Environmental Protection Department on 20 August 2004 and expressed support for their enactment to facilitate regulating and levying charges for the disposal of construction waste.

On specific provisions of the regulations, the general view was that there should be adequate flexibilities to allow timely adjustment of the operating procedures. While existing contracts would not be subject to disposal charges, appropriate arrangements should be made to enable the construction and demolition materials from these contracts to be disposed of in accordance with the new statutory provisions. On sorting, instead of fixed charges, there should be adjustments for the actual percentages of inert content.

Members also discussed the complementary measures for the charging scheme. It was suggested that there should be collection points at suitable locations to

minimize the traffic impact of waste disposal. Furthermore, while the sanctions against illegal dumping would be strengthened, members underscored the need for effective measures to control the disposal of construction waste on private land, particularly agricultural land in the New Territories.

We are pleased to note that concrete steps are being taken to implement the construction waste disposal charging scheme. We will complement these efforts by continuing to promote good practices and innovative construction techniques so as to achieve holistic waste management.

Yours sincerely,

(Russell Black)
Chairman
Working Group on Construction Waste,
Provisional Construction Industry Co-ordination Board

c.c. Chairman, Provisional Construction Industry Co-ordination Board