

ETWB(T)CR 1/3/4651/92

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30 April 2005

Mr Andy Lau  
Clerk to Subcommittee to Study the  
Eastern Harbour Crossing Ordinance  
(Amendment of Schedule) Notice 2005  
Legislative Council  
8 Jackson Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mr Lau,

**Subcommittee to  
Study the Eastern Harbour Crossing Ordinance  
(Amendment of Schedule) Notice 2005**

**Motion passed at the meeting on 28 April 2005**

Thank you for your letter of 28 April 2005.

We fully appreciate the Subcommittee's concern about the impending toll increase of the Eastern Harbour Crossing. In fact, over the past few months, we have expressed to the New Hong Kong Tunnel Company Limited the strong public sentiment against the toll increase, and have requested the Company to reduce the level of increase, postpone the increase, or implement the new tolls by stages. The Company has responded by deferring the toll increase from 3 April to 1 May 2005. In addition, the toll increase for light buses and empty taxis would also be deferred to 1 October and 1 July 2005 respectively. We will continue to persuade the Company to offer further concessions.

Separately, we will also continue to discuss with the tunnel franchisees the viability of various measures for enhancing the distribution of traffic at the three road harbour crossings. We will report developments to the Panel on Transport in due course.

Yours sincerely,

(Ms Annie Choi)  
for Secretary for the Environment,  
Transport and Works