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4 November 2005

Miss Becky Yu  
Clerk to the LegCo Panel on  
Environmental Affairs  
LegCo Secretariat  
3/F, Citibank Tower  
Garden Road, Hong Kong

Dear Miss Yu,

**Panel on Environmental Affairs  
Meeting on 5 July 2005**

**A proposal to require pre-Euro heavy diesel vehicles  
to be retrofitted with emission reduction devices**

As requested by Members at the meeting of the Panel on Environmental Affairs on 5 July 2005, we would like to provide the following additional information:

- (i) An estimate on the improvements made to the air quality as a result of the retrofitting programmes for pre-Euro diesel vehicles

A pre-Euro diesel vehicle emits seven times more particulates than a Euro III diesel vehicle. For an individual vehicle, the device could reduce the emissions of these vehicles by about 30%. For the 34,000 vehicles retrofitted, the emission of about 90 tonnes particulates in the urban area per year can be reduced. If there is no change in the level of background pollution concentrations, it can result in about 2-3% reduction of the roadside particulate concentrations.

- (ii) The number of mainland-registered vehicles which were allowed to enter Hong Kong

Diesel vehicles that may cross the Hong Kong-Mainland boundary are mainly goods vehicles and coaches. There are about 18,700 cross boundary goods vehicles and 700 cross boundary coaches by the end of September 2005. They are required to be registered and licensed both in Hong Kong and the Mainland. At the time of their first registration in Hong Kong, they are required to comply with the Hong Kong's statutory requirements including the prevailing emission standards for vehicles seeking first registration. Failing to comply with the emission requirements will result in the denial of their registration application by the Commissioner for Transport.

Yours faithfully,

( W.C. MOK )

for Director of Environmental Protection

c.c. Commissioner for Transport (Attn. : Miss Amy LI)