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26 February 2005

Miss Salumi Chan  
Clerk to Panel on Public Service  
Legislative Council  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road, Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Miss Chan,

**Post-retirement Employment of Ms Elaine Chung,  
Former Deputy Director of Housing**

At the Panel meeting held on 21 December 2004, apart from expressing concerns about Ms Elaine Chung's association with a proposal on the West Kowloon Cultural District development project, Members also asked the Administration to look into reports that she might have performed a role in respect of an application for change in land use for a concrete batching plant in Tsing Yi and that her office accommodation was located at the premises of Henderson Land Development Co. Ltd. at the International Finance Centre in Central. The Administration undertook to follow-up on these issues. I write to briefly inform the Panel of the progress in this regard.

Since the aforementioned meeting, we have taken further action to ascertain and verify the facts surrounding the case. This includes asking Ms Chung to provide a full account of her work assignments under employment with Hong Kong Ferry (Holdings) Co. Ltd thus far, and meeting her to seek more detailed clarification directly from her. And in relation to the report on Ms Chung's playing a part in the lobbying for support in respect of the change in land use application for a concrete batching plant in Tsing Yi, we have also sought comments from the District Officer (Kwai Tsing).

We originally aimed to report our findings on Ms Chung's case to the Panel before end of February. While the information collection has been substantially completed, we would need some more time to analyze the information collected and for Ms Chung to make any further clarification before we can consolidate our findings. We appreciate the wish of Members to see an early submission of a full report on our findings and would make our best efforts to expedite the work, but we would emphasize that it is equally important that the principles of natural justice are observed throughout the process. We expect to conclude our findings in March 2005.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

(Ellen Choy)  
for Secretary for the Civil Service

c.c. Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP (Chairman)