

政府總部  
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7 March 2008

Clerk to Bills Committee  
(Attn : Ms. YUE Tin-po)  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Ms. Yue,

**Concern on light trespass of signboards  
from Friends of the Earth (Hong Kong)**

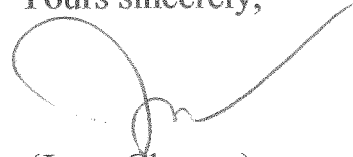
Thank you for your e-mail dated 21 February relaying the concern from the Friends of the Earth (Hong Kong) (“FOE(HK)”) about light trespass of signboards. Please find our response as follows.

The Buildings Ordinance (BO) regulates the structural safety of buildings and stipulates standards for building structure and fire safety aspects. Signboards that are building works shall comply with the requirements under the BO. The proposed minor works control system will provide simplified statutory procedures for carrying out signboard works with a smaller scale. This control system regulates the size, structure, construction process of smaller scale signboards and the qualification of the contractors in carrying out such works.

As the Buildings (Amendment) Bill 2007 does not cover the control of light trespass of signboards, we consider that it is more appropriate to discuss this matter outside this Bills Committee. We understand that the Secretariat has already relayed the letter from FOE(HK) to the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs to consider whether follow-up action is necessary.

Regarding the particular signboard mentioned in case 3 in the FOE(HK)'s letter, the Buildings Department will contact FOE(HK) and obtain more information of the signboard in question so that further follow-up actions and inspection can be taken in accordance with the BO and enforcement policy against unauthorized building works. The case will also be referred to other relevant departments for follow-up action if necessary.

Yours sincerely,



(Jerry Cheung)

for Secretary for Development

c.c.	DB	(Attn : Mr H W Cheung/ Mr S T Lam)	[Fax : 2840 0451]
	SJ	(Attn : Mr Allen Lai/ Miss Selina Lau/ Ms Carmen Chu)	[Fax : 2869 1302] [Fax : 2536 8137]