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CB(1) 511/07-08(01)

27 December 2007

Clerk to Panel on Environmental Affairs
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong
(Attention: Miss Becky YU)

Dear Miss YU,

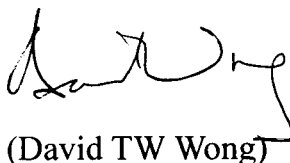
**Supplementary Information on Promotion of Cleaner Production
in the Pearl River Delta Region**

The subject on “Promotion of cleaner production in the Pearl River Delta Region” was discussed at the LegCo Environmental Affairs Panel on 17 December 2007 (LC Paper No. CB(1) 418/07-08(06) refers). The Administration was asked to provide further information on the following:

- (a) the number of Hong Kong-owned factories in the PRD Region which applied for loan support under the SME funding schemes for installation of cleaner production facilities and equipment; and
- (b) a detailed cost breakdown for implementing the proposed five-year Cleaner Production Partnership Programme.

2. I am pleased to enclose the additional information in the Annexes to this letter for Members’ information

Yours sincerely,



(David TW Wong)

for Director of Environmental Protection

**Support for Small and Medium Enterprises (SME)
SME Loan Guarantee Scheme (SGS)**

1. The Government currently operates an SME Loan Guarantee Scheme (SGS) which helps SMEs secure loans from participating lending institutions through the provision of loan guarantees. The Business Installations and Equipment (BIE) Loan Guarantee helps SMEs acquire business installations and equipment relating to their business operations.
2. As at 30 November 2007, the total number of BIE loan guarantee applications approved is 16,788. The number of BIE applications approved for SMEs which have business installations and equipment located in the Mainland¹ is 13,155. Further breakdown for applications relating to facilities or equipment in the Pearl River Delta region or those specifically for cleaner technologies or environmental facilities are, however, not available.
3. The Administration is now proposing, amongst other enhanced measures, to raise the loan guarantee ceiling of BIE from \$2 million to \$5 million for each SME, or 50% of the approved loan, whichever is the less. Subject to the approval of Finance Committee, the Administration plans to introduce the enhanced measures in early 2008.

¹ Figure includes BIE placed in a factory in the Mainland which is either owned by a Hong Kong SME or has a production agreement, contract or arrangement with a Hong Kong SME.

Annex 2

**Estimated Cost Breakdown for the Implementation of
the Five Year Cleaner Production Partnership Programme**

	Funding by Government (HK\$ million)	Contributions by HKPC (HK\$ million)	Contributions by Industry (HK\$ million)	Total Cost (HK\$ million)
1. PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT				
Programme Director (25% staff time)	0.00	3.66	0.00	3.66
Programme Manager	6.94	0.00	0.00	6.94
Programme Officer	0.00	1.47	0.00	1.47
Mainland Programme Supporting Staff (6 nos.)	3.81	0.00	0.00	3.81
HK Office Accommodation & Administration	0.00	1.62	0.00	1.62
Mainland Office Accommodation	1.08	0.00	0.00	1.08
Sub Total	11.83	6.75	0.00	18.58
2. AWARENESS PROMOTION				
Events Planning & Logistics	2.00	0.23	0.00	2.23
Dedicated website, enquiry hotline, guidebooks development	3.22	0.00	0.00	3.22
Trainers/Speakers' Fees	2.80	0.70	0.00	3.50
Organisation & Publicity Expenses	4.83	0.00	0.00	4.83
Sub Total	12.85	0.93	0.00	13.78
3. ON-SITE IMPROVEMENT ASSESSMENT				
On site assessment and advisory services [1]	17.00	0.00	15.00	32.00
Programme Quality Assurance Team (PQAT) [2]				
Assessment Team Leader	6.94	0.00	0.00	6.94
Assessment Officer (3 nos.)	7.44	3.72	0.00	11.16
Sub Total	31.38	3.72	15.00	50.10
4. DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS				
Project Implementation Costs [3]	20.00	0.00	15.00	35.00
5. PERFORMANCE VERIFICATION SERVICE				
Project Implementation Costs [4]	17.00	0.00	0.00	17.00
TOTAL	93.06	11.40	30.00	134.46

Remarks

- [1] Including costs for procuring hardware & software for on site measurement and assessment uses.
- [2] PQAT covers the monitoring of both on-site improvement assessment services and the implementation of demonstration projects.
- [3] Including cost budgeted for development/adaptation of low-cost pollution control technologies for local application.
- [4] Including costs for procuring equipment and systems for data collection and analyses.