

商務及經濟發展局
通訊及科技科

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COMMUNICATIONS
AND TECHNOLOGY BRANCH
COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

1/F--2/F Murray Building
Garden Road
Central, Hong Kong

本局檔號 OUR REF :
來函檔號 YOUR REF :
電 話 TEL. NO. : 2189 2233
傳 真 FAXLINE : 2827 0373

Urgent By Fax

(Fax No. 2509 9092)

6 November 2007

The Hon WONG Kwok-hing
Room 603, Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road, Central
Hong Kong

Dear Sir,

**Television Reception in Tung Chung and
Mobile Reception of Mobile Telephone Service in Lantau South**

With regard to your questions raised at the meeting of the LegCo Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting held on 16 October 2007 about unsatisfactory TV reception at Yat Tung Estate, Tung Chung as well as mobile reception in Lantau South, we have followed up the issues in details and our reply is as follows.

TV Reception in Tung Chung

We have contacted Asia Television Limited (ATV) for the complaint about unsatisfactory TV reception at Po Yat House and Yat Tung Estate in Tung Chung. After the inspection carried out by ATV, it was confirmed that there was

no problem with the operation of Castle Peak transmission station serving the Tung Chung area. On 31 October 2007, the staff of the Office of the Telecommunications Authority (OFTA) performed an in-situ test at Po Yat House in the presence of the staff of your Office. Test results showed that TV signal from Castle Peak transmission station could be received well at Po Yat House. The unsatisfactory TV reception was due to improper positioning of the antenna of the communal television system of the building. OFTA staff had suggested on site the most appropriate position of the communal aerial for improvement of TV reception. The result was satisfactory.

Mobile Reception in Lantau South

The recent in-situ tests performed by the OFTA found that at least one local mobile network can be received at most parts along the main roads of Lantau South (including South Lantau Road, Keung Shan Road and Tung Chung Road), except for some locations where poor reception was due to topographic constraint. With the launch of the mobile base station at Nga Ying Shan in Southwest Lantau in August, the signal reception in the vicinity of Tai O and Lantau Trail (Stage 7) has also improved.

The Government has been taking measures to encourage and assist mobile network operators to improve mobile phone coverage in country parks and remote areas. Apart from allowing the operators to apply for setting up mobile base stations using the Government facilities at a nominal rent, the utilisation fee for the additional radio spectrum specifically allocated for such base stations is waived. In addition to the newly completed mobile base station at Nga Ying Shan, two more base stations at Shek Pik and a hilltop site near Pui O are expected to come into operation in mid-2008 and at the end of 2008 respectively. By the time, the mobile coverage for Lantau South, including Shek Pik, Shui Hau, Tai Long Wan, Pui O and Chi Ma Wan, will further improve. Also, the OFTA is liaising with the departments concerned in regard

to the improvement work to Tung Chung Road to facilitate the operators to identify suitable locations for building base stations to provide mobile coverage at the new section of the Tung Chung Road.

Yours faithfully,

(Alan SIU)
for Secretary for Commerce and
Economic Development

c.c. Clerk to Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting
AA/SCED