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環境保護署署長
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3 March 2004

Mr Henry Cheng
Managing Director
New World Development Company Limited
30th Floor, New World Tower
18 Queen's Road Central
Hong Kong

Dear *Mr Cheng,*

Hunghom Peninsula

I refer to recent news reports that the "Hunghom Peninsula" might be demolished in order to facilitate redevelopment. From the waste management perspective, this would be extremely undesirable, as it would generate hundreds of millions of tonnes of additional waste materials which would exacerbate the problems we are already facing in trying to deal with the massive amounts of construction and demolition waste being generated every year in Hong Kong.

Over the past years, the Government has been working very hard with the construction industry to try to reduce the generation of construction waste. Despite the efforts made so far, there were still about 19 million tonnes of construction waste generated in 2003, out of which 2.5 million tonnes had to be disposed of at our precious landfills and 16.4 million tonnes at public fill outlets for reclamation purposes. For many decades, we have been relying on reclamation sites and landfills for the disposal of inert and non-inert portions of the construction waste respectively. As your company is involved in the waste management business as a shareholder of one of the operating landfills in Hong Kong, I believe you would appreciate that such arrangements for dealing with construction and demolition waste are no longer sustainable, as we are rapidly running out of landfill space and new reclamation projects are rare.

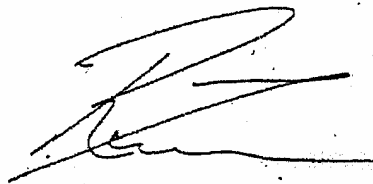
I would urge you, therefore, to do everything possible so as to avoid the need for completely demolishing the "Hunghom Peninsula" development.

If you nevertheless do intend to proceed to demolish the buildings, or if you intend to undertake major renovations of the buildings, I would urge you to prepare a proper waste management plan and to adopt a sequential deconstruction method in consultation with the relevant government departments. In the deconstruction process, all the reusable and recyclable materials, including broken concrete, metals etc should be recovered for reuse or

recycling. Disposal at landfills should only be considered after exhausting all possible material reuse and recycling options.

My colleagues in EPD, and I am sure colleagues from other relevant departments and bureaux, would be pleased to discuss this issue further with you and to provide advice on the best way forward. If you would like to accept my offer, please ask your relevant staff to contact our Assistant Director responsible for waste management issues, Dr Ellen Chan (tel 28721600).

Yours faithfully,



(Robert J S Law)
Director of Environmental Protection

c.c. Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works
Secretary for the Housing, Planning and Lands
Director of Buildings
Director of Civil Engineering
Director of Housing
Director of Lands
Director of Planning