

10 March 2009

Mr. Alfred Lee
Assistant Director (Waste Management Policy)
Environmental Protection Department
46th Floor, Revenue Tower
5 Gloucester Road
Wanchai, Hong Kong

(By fax 2511 3658 & by mail)

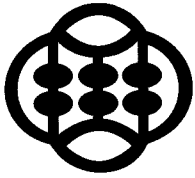
Dear Mr. Lee,

Define Baseline for Reviewing Levy Effectiveness

I refer to my letter dated 3 March on the Product Eco-responsibility (Plastic Shopping Bags) Regulation.

On the review mechanism, in order to measure changes in usage pattern accurately, it is imperative for the EPD to define the baseline for comparison before the levy is implemented. The re-usage of plastic bags should also be thoroughly studied. The waste statistics in the "Monitoring of Solid Waste in Hong Kong 2008" report can be used for the purpose of benchmarking with the following breakdown:

1. Number of plastic bags in Hong Kong, including:
 - Plastic shopping bags (with handle)
 - Plastic bags (without handle)
2. Number of plastic shopping bags in Hong Kong, including:
 - Number of plastic shopping bag distributed by retail outlets covered by the scheme
 - Number of plastic shopping bag distributed by other retail outlets not covered by the scheme
3. Number of garbage bags
4. Number of paper bags
5. Number of plastic bags recovered for recycling



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We would be most grateful if you would provide the above mentioned figures at the coming working group meeting. If you have any question, please feel free to contact the undersigned on 2866 8311.

Yours sincerely,

pp 

Peter Johnston
Chairman
Task Force on Plastic Shopping Bags Levy Implementation
Hong Kong Retail Management Association

c.c. Business Facilitation Advisory Committee (Fax: 2537 7566)
Retail Task Force (Fax: 2537 7566)
LegCo Subcommittee on Product Eco-responsibility (Plastic Shopping Bags)
Regulation (Fax: 2869 6794)
LegCo Panel on Environmental Affairs (Fax: 2869 6794)