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Chairman
Sub-Committee on Combating Fly-Tipping
Panel on Environmental Affairs
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Land Filling and Fly-Tipping

Herewith we submit notes of our deputation on 7 May 2009.

The need for an effective permit system

We support the plans for a permit system for disposal of waste to address the growing concerns over dumping of waste outside designated public filling facilities or landfill sites. **We urge the following to make the permit system more effective:**

1. Each permit must include a clear visual demarcation of the land for which the permit has been provided;
2. The permit must be clearly displayed at the boundary of the site;
3. Any public officer can request sight of the permit;
4. The permit must be required for all materials which are being deposited, whether this is waste or other materials, to avoid any and all dispute;
5. The person who intends to dump materials on a land must be able to produce the permit which must show permission of the land owner/occupier AND the authority.

The need to consolidate the various Government 'waste' efforts under one team

To ensure the effectiveness of waste management **we recommend that all Government efforts related to waste are consolidated**, including those of the FEHD and EPD. This opens the route for creating a more efficient management, and the possibility of a future Waste Management Trading Fund, with income generated by waste charges and penalties for illegal or inappropriate waste disposal, which then pays for the expense for waste collection and enforcement action. This would then also consolidate the control over resources to collect and process waste, including resources required to clean up areas which have been despoiled illegally.

Land filling is a result of unresolved development and land policies

Land filling whether this is done with waste or otherwise, are development issues. Much of the land filling relates to frustrated development expectations for private agriculture land which has become inaccessible or has been down-zoned. Solutions have been identified in, among others, the 1991 Comprehensive Review of the Town Planning Ordinance, and in the consultations prior to the New Nature Conservation Policy in 2004. We urge LegCo to study the effectiveness of the New Nature Conservation Policy in response to these development challenges. **Only by resolving the underlying land and development issues, not in the least the Small House Policy for villagers, can the problem of illegal land filling and despoliation of nature and green belt land be adequately resolved.**

Yours sincerely,



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Founding Member

c.c.

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