

**Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11**

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment
Session No. : 7**

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB001

Question Serial No.

0132

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

The estimated numbers of seedlings to be produced or planted in 2010 are lower than those in 2009. Please explain.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The estimated numbers of seedlings to be produced and planted in 2010 will be kept at 600 000 and 700 000 respectively due to the lack of suitable sites for large scale tree planting programmes. The majority of country park areas is now well wooded or covered with good vegetation. Opportunities for large scale tree planting are not readily available. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will focus more on the enhancement in quality of planting instead of quantity. Apart from planting for rehabilitating areas damaged by hill fires and controlling soil erosion, more attention will be paid to enriching existing exotic plantations through inter-planting with native tree species.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ALAN WONG** _____

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date _____ 12 March 2010 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB002

Question Serial No.

0133

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

What was the size of country park areas damaged in the 34 hill fires occurring in 2009? How many plants have been replanted since then? Have there been any resources earmarked for evaluating the ecological impact of the hill fires on country parks? If yes, please give the details.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The 34 hill fires occurred in 2009 affected 275 ha of country park area and some 22 870 trees. The affected sites were largely covered by grass and shrubs originally and only a few sites were grown with trees. To minimize the ecological impact of hill fires on country parks, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will plant 80 000 tree seedlings at fire damaged areas in various country parks in Tai Lam, Lantau and Pat Sin Leng in the planting season of 2010. A higher priority will be accorded to those sites with trees affected. As the post-fire surveys and assessments form part of AFCD's on-going rehabilitation work for country park areas affected by hill fires, there is no separate breakdown of the resources earmarked for the ecological impact evaluation in this connection.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ALAN WONG** _____

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date _____ 12 March 2010 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB003

Question Serial No.

0134

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

What is the amount of resources earmarked for the promotion of geo-conservation in 2010-11? Please provide details of the promotion strategies. Are there any plans to designate more sites as geoparks? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

In 2010-11, the amount of resources earmarked for promotion of geo-conservation is \$8 million.

Our promotion strategies are to let members of the public and overseas visitors to appreciate the geo-features in Hong Kong and learn more about geo-conservation. Our promotional efforts include (a) production of field guides for the general public and professional handbooks for geopark guides; (b) training of guides and tour operators; (c) the conduct of geological educational activities and guided tours for students; (d) organisation of exhibitions and geo-cultural activities; and (e) production of a video and a website on geo-conservation. Geo-conservation messages are also disseminated through the interpretative facilities of geo-trails, visitor centres and local geological education centres.

In order to qualify to be a geosite for a national geopark, the site has to meet stringent requirements such as having distinctive scientific importance, rarity or beauty, and have good basis for management. Currently, we have eight geosites covered by the Hong Kong National Geopark which meet these criteria, and we do not have any plan to increase the number of geosites at this stage.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB004

Question Serial No.

0601

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

In connection with the promotion of geo-conservation, please inform the Committee of its details, the expenditure involved and its effectiveness over the past 2 years (2008-09 and 2009-10) as well as the action plan and estimated expenditure in 2010-11.

Asked by: Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply:

In 2008-09, the total expenditure for the promotion of geo-conservation was \$2 million. It included production of a promotional video and several publications as well as the preparation work for a visitor centre.

In 2009-10, the amount of provision earmarked for the promotion of geo-conservation was \$7 million. It included (a) various educational and publicity activities such as school visits and guided tours; (b) production of an educational video and publications; and (c) development of two geo-trails and renovation of one visitor centre to promote geo-conservation.

In 2010-11, the amount of provision earmarked for the promotion of geo-conservation is \$8 million. It includes (a) production of field guides for the general public and professional handbooks for geopark guides; (b) training of guides and tour operators; (c) conduct of geological educational activities and guided tours for students; (d) organisation of exhibition and geo-cultural activities; and (e) the production of a video and a website on geo-conservation. Geo-conservation messages are also disseminated through the interpretative facilities of geo-trails, visitor centres and local geological education centres.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 15 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB005

Question Serial No.

0602

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the education and publicity on endangered species protection, please inform the Committee of the details, the expenditure involved and the effectiveness of such work over the past two years (i.e. 2008-09 and 2009-10). What are the action plans and the estimated expenditure in 2010-11?

Asked by: Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) conducts a variety of education and publicity activities in relation to endangered species protection. On-going activities include (a) providing general information on the endangered species and the related control measures on AFCD's website; (b) production and distribution of educational and publicity materials, organising talks and holding exhibitions in public venues and schools; (c) running the Endangered Species Resource Centre with display of about 600 specimens of 200 endangered species; (d) issuing circular letters to traders and other concerned parties to update them on any change in legislative control; and (e) organising a joint education and publicity programme with our Guangzhou counterpart in view of the close trading relationship between the two places.

In 2008-09 and 2009-10, a total of 154 exhibitions, talks and seminars were held with a total audience of over 300 000 persons. The Endangered Species Resource Centre attracted some 6 000 visitors each year. An educational CD on endangered species protection was distributed to schools for reference in teaching the Liberal Studies subject under the New Senior Secondary Curriculum in 2009. The total expenditures involved in 2008-09 and 2009-10 were \$1.49 million and \$1.36 million respectively.

In 2010-11, AFCD will continue to conduct the above-mentioned on-going education and publicity activities to promote public awareness of endangered species protection. The estimated expenditure involved is about \$1.4 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ALAN WONG

Post Title _____ Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date _____ 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB006

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

1916

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

In connection with production and plantation of seedlings, please provide the following information:

- a. the number of seedlings produced and planted over the past 2 years (2008-09 and 2009-10) as well as the progress made, their use, the expenditure and sites involved;
- b. the reasons for the estimated number of seedlings to be planted in 2010 being lower than the actual number of seedlings planted in 2009 and the possible impacts of the reduction on the production and plantation programme; and
- c. details of the production and plantation programmes (such as types and quantities) for each of the 18 districts in 2010 and the expenditure, number of seedlings and proportion of expenditure involved in each district.

Asked by: Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply:

- (a) The number of seedlings produced and planted in 2008-09 and 2009-10 are shown below:

	2008-09	2009-10
Seedlings produced	599 000	675 000
Seedlings planted	904 000	735 000
Expenditure	\$8.9 million	\$11.2 million

All the seedlings produced by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) were planted in country parks to meet various needs including the rehabilitation of fire-damaged areas, containing soil erosion, enhancement of biodiversity and improvement of countryside landscape. Tree tending works would be conducted for the planted seedlings in the subsequent years including fertilizing, weeding, pruning and thinning which is conducive to the health and sustainability of the woodlands in the long term.

- (b) The estimated number of seedlings to be planted in 2010 is 700 000, which is kept at a similar level of actual planting in 2009. The majority of country park areas is now well wooded or covered with good vegetation. Opportunities for large scale tree planting are not readily available. AFCD will focus more on the enhancement of quality of planting instead of quantity. Apart from planting for rehabilitating areas damaged by hill fires and controlling soil erosion, more attention will be paid to

enriching existing exotic plantations through inter-planting with native tree species. It is expected that the adjustment of production and plantation level will have a positive impact on the effectiveness of greening works in country parks.

- (c) The distribution of the 700 000 tree seedlings estimated for planting in 2010 according to the districts where the country parks are located and the proportion of planting expenditure involved in each relevant district are shown below:

District	Three districts on HK Island	Islands	North	Sai Kung	Sha Tin	Tai Po	Tsuen Wan	Tuen Mun	Yuen Long	Total
No. of seedlings	5 000	235 000	40 000	88 000	38 000	40 000	34 000	110 000	110 000	700 000
Expenditure by proportion	\$0.08 million	\$3.66 million	\$0.62 million	\$1.37 million	\$0.59 million	\$0.62 million	\$0.53 million	\$1.71 million	\$1.71 million	\$10.89 million

Different species of seedlings will be mix-planted in each planting site. About 73 % of the seedlings are native species while the remaining are exotic species. The major species involved are as follows:-

Species	Chinese common names
Native	
<i>Aporosa dioica</i>	銀柴
<i>Bischofia javanica</i>	秋楓
<i>Castanopsis fissa</i>	蠟葫錐
<i>Liquidambar formosana</i>	楓香
<i>Machilus species</i>	潤楠屬品種
<i>Reevesia thyrsoidea</i>	梭羅樹
<i>Rhaphiolepis indica</i>	石斑木
<i>Sapium discolor</i>	山烏柏
<i>Schima species</i>	荷樹品種
<i>Syzygium species</i>	蒲桃品種
<i>Tutcheria spectabilis</i>	石筆木
Exotic	
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	耳葉相思
<i>Acacia confusa</i>	台灣相思
<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i>	木麻黃
<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	紅膠木
<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	白千層

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 15 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB007

Question Serial No.

0257

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Please provide details on the estimated expenditure for the management and operation of the Hong Kong National Geopark in 2010-11.

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

In 2010-11, a total of \$22.6 million has been earmarked for the management and operation of the Hong Kong National Geopark. Major duties to be carried out by the concerned staff would include (a) conducting patrols and enforcement operations; (b) arranging cleaning and litter collection services; (c) setting up and maintenance of visitor facilities such as visitor centres and geo-trails; (d) organising education, promotional and publicity activities; (e) promoting local community's participation in geo-conservation and tourism activities; and (f) conducting research and studies on geological science.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB008

Question Serial No.

0258

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

It is indicated in this programme that 675 000 seedlings were actually produced in 2009 whereas an estimated 600 000 seedlings will be produced in 2010. Please specify the expenditure on fertilizers for seedlings under the estimate for 2010-11 and the amount involved in organic fertilizers.

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

The estimated expenditure on fertilizers for seedlings at production and planting stages is \$940,000 in 2010-11, of which \$30,000 is for purchasing organic fertilizers.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ALAN WONG** _____

Post Title _____ **Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation** _____

Date _____ **12 March 2010** _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB009

Question Serial No.

0259

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, it is stated that legislation will be introduced to extend the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to Hong Kong. Please advise on the estimated expenditure involved and when the task will be completed.

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

To extend the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (the Protocol) to Hong Kong, a new piece of legislation, namely the Genetically Modified Organisms (Control of Release) Bill (the Bill) and its Regulation, will have to be introduced to provide for the legal basis for the control of import, export and release into the environment of genetically modified organisms. The Bill has recently been passed on 10 March 2010 and we aim to enact the Regulation in the second half of this year. Subject to the completion of the legislative process, we shall proceed to arrange for the procedures to extend the Protocol to Hong Kong.

\$2.3 million in 2010-11 has been earmarked for implementing the regulatory scheme under this legislation.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ALAN WONG _____

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date _____ 15 March 2010 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB010

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

0260

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

The "Indicators" of this programme state that 34 hill fires were attended to in 2009. Please provide the details of each hill fire, including the date it occurred, the location, areas affected, the number of trees destroyed and the estimated expenditure on hill fire prevention in 2010-11.

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

(a) The particulars of hill fires affecting country parks (CP) and special areas (SA) in 2009 are as follows:

Serial No.	Date	CP/SA	Area Affected (Hectares)	Trees Affected (Number)*
01	02.01.09	Tai Mo Shan CP	0.4	0
02	07.01.09	Plover Cove CP	25	0
03	10.01.09	Tai Po Kau Nature Reserve	5	0
04	11.01.09	Tai Lam CP	8	800
05	12.01.09	Kam Shan CP	0.15	0
06	13.01.09	Tai Lam CP	6	100
07	15.01.09	Sai Kung East CP	1	20
08	15.01.09	Ma On Shan CP	3	0
09	17.01.09	Pat Sin Leng CP	140	6000
10	19.01.09	Pat Sin Leng CP	10	0
11	24.01.09	Pat Sin Leng CP	1	0
12	25.01.09	Sai Kung East CP	1.5	70
13	05.02.09	Tai Po Kau Nature Reserve	3	200
14	08.02.09	Tai Po Kau Nature Reserve	0.2	0
15	18.02.09	Wetland Park SA	0.03	0
16	27.02.09	Sai Kung East CP	0.06	0
17	03.03.09	Sai Kung East CP	0.09	0
18	23.03.09	Wetland Park SA	0.01	0
19	31.03.09	Plover Cove CP	0.01	0
20	04.04.09	Lantau North CP	5	0
21	04.04.09	Lantau South CP	0.5	80

Serial No.	Date	CP/SA	Area Affected (Hectares)	Trees Affected (Number)*
22	04.04.09	Tai Lam CP	1	0
23	11.04.09	Tai Po Kau Nature Reserve	3.5	0
24	25.10.09	Lantau North CP	0.1	0
25	26.10.09	Ma On Shan CP	10	0
26	26.10.09	Lantau North CP	8	0
27	26.10.09	Ma On Shan CP	2.5	300
28	27.10.09	Lantau North CP	4	0
29	29.10.09	Tai Lam CP	0.25	0
30	01.11.09	Plover Cove CP	0.5	0
31	02.11.09	Tai Lam CP	30	15 000
32	19.11.09	Lantau North CP	0.1	0
33	01.12.09	Pat Sin Leng CP	5	300
34	24.12.09	Pat Sin Leng CP	0.25	0
Total			275.15	22 870

*Rounded figures

- (b) In 2010-11, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has earmarked \$33 million for the prevention and fighting of hill fires in country parks and special areas.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB011

Question Serial No.

3087

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

“The promotion of public education and publicity on nature conservation and compatible use of country parks and marine parks” and “the designation of new special areas and marine parks to protect areas of geological and ecological interest” are mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11. Please inform the Committee of the details of the above-mentioned works. How could equilibrium between tourism and ecological conservation be maintained in promoting the above matters?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

In 2010-11, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will continue to promote public education and publicity on nature conservation and compatible use of country parks and marine parks through (a) production and distribution of educational and publicity materials, organising talks, outreach programmes and exhibitions in its visitor and education centres, the Hong Kong Wetland Park, public venues and schools; (b) dissemination of nature conservation messages and information about our country and marine park resources and facilities through AFCD's websites; (c) organising educational activities and guided tours for general public and students; and (d) training of guides and tour operators engaged in nature based tourism businesses.

With the establishment of the Hong Kong National Geopark, AFCD will strengthen its educational and publicity efforts on conservation in collaboration with District Councils, non-governmental organisations and the tourism industry with a view to promoting the conservation of our geological and ecological resources as well as balancing the needs for tourism development and nature conservation.

To protect areas of geological and ecological interest, AFCD continuously explores suitable areas for designation as country parks, special areas or marine parks. In 2010-11, AFCD will actively pursue the plan to design new special areas and marine parks in order to better protect those areas of high geological and ecological interests within the Hong Kong National Geopark that are currently not falling within the boundary of the existing country parks, special areas or marine parks.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 15 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB012

Question Serial No.

0231

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the territory-wide survey programme for collecting information and maintaining an ecological database, please provide the following information:

- (a) the projects covered by the survey programme;
- (b) the date the survey programme was launched and the estimated date of completion; and
- (c) the estimated expenditure on the survey programme.

Asked by: Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply:

- (a) The territory-wide survey programme covers different habitats: (a) the location, status and composition of about 100 plant communities; and (b) the distribution and abundance of over 1 100 animal species, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, freshwater fish, dragonflies, butterflies and beetles. Besides, the programme includes the implementation of conservation plans for target species. We have established a computerised geographic information system version of the ecological database to enable the storage of data in digital format and analysis of spatial data using this system. A simplified internet version of the database may now be accessed through the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department's website.
- (b) The programme has started since 2002-03. Since our ecological environment is constantly changing, we have to conduct statistical surveys to monitor and update the database from time to time.
- (c) \$4 million has been earmarked for the programme in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 15 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB013

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

0232

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Please provide details on the project of geo-conservation promotion and specify the estimated increase of resources required.

Asked by: Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply:

The work planned for promotion of geo-conservation includes (a) production of field guides for general public and professional handbooks for geopark guides; (b) training of guides and tour operators; (c) conducting geological educational activities and guided tours for students; (d) organisation of exhibition and geo-cultural activities; and (e) production of a video and a website on geo-conservation. Geo-conservation messages are also disseminated through the interpretative facilities of geo-trails, visitor centres and local geological education centres.

In 2010-11, the amount of provision earmarked for promotion of geo-conservation is \$8 million. In 2009-10, \$7 million was earmarked for carrying out promotional activities related to the Hong Kong National Geopark.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB014

Question Serial No.

0581

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

In connection with the work on management and protection of country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves, please provide the following information:

- (a) What were the staffing and expenditure involved in the management of country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves in 2009-10? What are the estimated staffing and expenditure for 2010-11?
- (b) How effective were the measures taken to combat illegal felling of plants in country parks over the past year (2009-10)? Will the Administration strengthen its efforts in combating such activities?

Asked by: Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply:

- (a) In 2009-10, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has deployed 910 staff and allocated some \$288 million for the management and protection of country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves, and related duties. The total manpower and expenditure for the same will be increased to 929 and \$319 million in 2010-11.
- (b) In 2009-10, there were 7 prosecution cases against illegal cutting of trees in country parks, among which 2 cases were prosecuted under the Forest and Countryside Ordinance (Cap. 96) and 5 under the Country Parks and Special Areas Regulations (Cap. 208A). We will continue our patrols and enforcement operations in country parks to combat such illegal activity.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 15 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB015

Question Serial No.

0582

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the prevention of hill fires, please provide the following information:

- a. Are there any specific measures to enhance fire protection for woodlands and country parks? Are there any replanting programmes for the trees destroyed in areas affected by hill fires? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- b. The estimated expenditure on the prevention of hill fires in 2010-11.

Asked by: Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply:

- (a) In 2010-11, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will continue to maintain 26 fire fighting teams and 11 fire lookouts at strategic locations to detect and fight hill fires during the dry season. Educational programmes and publicity activities on hill fire prevention through production and distribution of leaflets, village visits, public announcements, media briefing and press tours will also be continued. During days of high fire risks, country park patrols will be stepped up to advise visitors to prevent hill fires and to enforce against any unauthorized use of fire. AFCD will also continue to carry out tree planting in country parks to rehabilitate sites damaged by hill fires. Some 80 000 tree seedlings will be planted for this purpose in the planting season of 2010.
- (b) In 2010-11, AFCD has earmarked \$33 million for the prevention and fighting of hill fires in country parks and special areas.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB016

Question Serial No.

0583

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the enforcement of nature conservation legislation and promotion of public awareness of nature conservation, please provide the following information:

- (a) the effectiveness and details of the enforcement of nature conservation legislation in 2009-10, and the estimated expenditure on this item in 2010-11; and
- (b) the measures the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department implemented in 2009-10 to promote public awareness of nature conservation; the effectiveness of the measures; and the estimated expenditure on this item in 2010-11.

Asked by: Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply:

- (a) The main ordinances relevant to nature conservation administered by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) include the Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208), Marine Parks Ordinance (Cap. 476), Forests and Countryside Ordinance (Cap. 96) and Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (Cap. 170).

So far, we have designated 24 country parks and 17 special areas under Cap. 208. The total area being protected and managed is about 44 000 hectares, some 40% of Hong Kong's land area. Under Cap. 476, we have designated 4 marine parks and 1 marine reserve representing some 2 430 hectares of the sea area. The Hong Kong National Geopark covering 5 000 hectares (land area) was established in November 2009. Three important wildlife habitats are also designated as restricted areas under Cap. 170 to protect them from human disturbance.

In 2009-10, AFCD continued to enforce the relevant legislation. For example, to protect our country parks, special areas, marine parks, marine reserve and restricted areas for nature conservation, we patrolled them regularly, issued public education materials and where necessary warnings to visitors, and prosecuted those people who committed offences such as littering, illegal use of fire and damage of vegetation.

AFCD also continues to protect Hong Kong's rich biodiversity through enforcing the relevant legislation. There are over 3 100 species of vascular plants, some 50 species of mammals, 490 species of birds, 80 species of reptiles, over 20 species of amphibians, 160 species of freshwater fishes, and more than 230 species of butterflies and 110 species of dragonflies in Hong Kong. Among them, over 98% of the native species are represented in the protected areas. In addition, AFCD provides nature conservation advice on some 160 ecological impact assessment applications and studies during the year.

About \$85 million has been earmarked for the above measures in 2010-11.

- (b) In 2009-10, AFCD continued to manage the country parks, marine reserve and marine parks, Hong Kong Wetland Park and Hong Kong National Geopark effectively for the promotion of nature conservation. There were some 14 million visitors to these areas. To promote public awareness of nature conservation, AFCD organised various activities, for example, school education programmes, seminars, volunteer programmes, guided visits and exhibitions. About 4 500 educational activities were organised in country parks, marine parks and Hong Kong National Geopark with a total of 322 000 participants, whereas some 8 000 activities were organised in the Hong Kong Wetland Park with over 246 000 participants.

The estimated expenditure to promote public education and awareness programmes on nature conservation in 2010-11 is about \$18 million.

Signature _____
Name in block letters ALAN WONG
Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
Date 15 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB017

Question Serial No.

0584

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the territory-wide survey programme for updating an ecological database, please provide the following information:

- (a) the estimated expenditure and details of the territory-wide survey programme; and
- (b) the action plan of and estimated expenditure on the enhancement of biodiversity in country parks and special areas in 2010-11.

Asked by: Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply:

- (a) The territory-wide survey programme has started since 2002-03. It covers different habitats: (a) the location, status and composition of about 100 plant communities; and (b) the distribution and abundance of over 1 100 animal species, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, freshwater fish, dragonflies, butterflies and beetles. Besides, the programme includes the implementation of conservation plans for target species. We have established a computerised geographic information system version of the ecological database to enable the storage of data in digital format and analysis of spatial data using this system. A simplified internet version of the database may now be accessed through the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department's (AFCD) website. Since our ecological environment is constantly changing, we have to conduct statistical surveys to monitor and update the database from time to time. \$4 million has been earmarked for the programme in 2010-11.
- (b) AFCD will continue its conservation measures to enhance biodiversity in country parks and special areas. These include creating suitable habitats to propagate rare and special plant species in order to enhance the species diversity of plantations. For example, out of the 700 000 tree seedlings that will be planted in country parks and special areas in 2010-11, 511 000 are native species, which could effectively enhance the biodiversity of the country parks and special areas. Out of these 511 000 seedlings, 15 000 seedlings are rare or protected native species, which could better support flora conservation. The estimated expenditure for planting 700 000 seedlings is \$10.89 million, of which \$8.95 million will be allocated for activities related to planting the above-mentioned 511 000 seedlings.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ALAN WONG**

Post Title _____ **Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation**

Date _____ **15 March 2010**

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB018

Question Serial No.

0755

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

In 2010-11, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will implement a territory-wide survey programme to collect information required for maintaining and updating an ecological database. Please provide details of the survey and the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply:

The territory-wide survey programme has started since 2002-03. It covers different habitats: (a) the location, status and composition of about 100 plant communities; and (b) the distribution and abundance of over 1 100 animal species, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, freshwater fish, dragonflies, butterflies and beetles. Besides, the programme includes the implementation of conservation action plans for target species. We have established a computerised geographic information system version of the ecological database to enable the storage of data in digital format and analysis of spatial data using this system. A simplified internet version of the database may now be accessed through the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department's website. Since our ecological environment is constantly changing, we have to conduct statistical surveys to monitor and update the database from time to time. \$4 million has been earmarked for the programme in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 15 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB019

Question Serial No.

0756

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

One of the main tasks for the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department in 2010-11 is the designation of new special areas and marine parks to protect areas of geological and ecological interest. In this connection, how many new sites are expected to be designated as special areas or marine parks? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply:

Most of the areas within the Hong Kong National Geopark already fall within the boundary of the existing country parks, special areas or marine parks. As for the remaining areas of high geological and ecological interests, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department plans to designate five special areas and five marine parks to better protect them. \$22.6 million has been earmarked in 2010-11 for the management and operation of the Hong Kong National Geopark, including the special areas and marine parks being planned.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB020

Question Serial No.

0243

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

The numbers of seedlings planted in 2008 and 2009 were 904 000 and 735 000 respectively, and the estimated number in 2010 is 700 000. The numbers are in a decreasing trend over the years. What are the number of staff and the related staff costs involved in 2008-09 to 2010-11?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply:

The decrease in planting quantity was mainly due to the lack of suitable sites for large scale tree planting programmes. After decades of intensive planting, the majority of country park areas is now well wooded or covered with good vegetation. Opportunities for large scale tree planting are thus not readily available. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has put more focus on the enhancement in quality of planting instead of quantity. Apart from planting for rehabilitating areas damaged by hill fires and controlling soil erosion, more attention will be paid to enriching existing exotic plantations woodlands through inter-planting with native tree species.

The manpower required and staff costs involved in seedling planting are as follows:

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11 (estimated)
Workload in terms of number of full time staff	21	16	16
Staff costs	\$2.90 million	\$2.25 million	\$2.26 million

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 15 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB021

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

0244

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

On the promotion of public awareness of nature conservation and enforcement of nature conservation legislation, what is the manpower to be deployed to carry out such duties in 2010-11? Please provide the expenditure involved and the proportion of staff costs.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply:

In 2010-11, a total of 208 staff will be deployed to the promotion of public awareness of nature conservation and the enforcement of related legislation in country and marine parks and the Hong Kong Wetland Park. The total staff cost involved is \$48 million, which is about 59% of the total expenditure of \$81.6 million allocated to these activities.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB022

Question Serial No.

1854

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the territory-wide survey programme for maintaining and updating the ecological database, please provide the following information:

- (a) the progress of and the expenditure involved on the survey programme over the past two years (i.e. 2008-09 and 2009-10);
- (b) was there any information collected from the survey programme over the past two years (i.e. 2008-09 and 2009-10) left unused in that particular year when it was collected? If yes, please set out the details; and
- (c) the action plans and the expenditure involved in 2010-11.

Asked by: Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply:

- (a) The territory-wide survey programme has started since 2002-03. It covers different habitats: (a) the location, status and composition of about 100 plant communities; and (b) the distribution and abundance of over 1 100 animal species, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, freshwater fish, dragonflies, butterflies and beetles. Besides, the programme includes the implementation of conservation action plans for target species. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has established a computerised geographic information system version of the ecological database to enable the storage of data in digital format and analysis of spatial data using this system. A simplified internet version of the database may now be accessed through AFCD's website. In 2008-09 and 2009-10, AFCD continued to conduct the survey programme and the expenditures involved were \$2.7 million and \$3.3 million respectively.
- (b) Information collected from the survey programme is of vital importance to the building up and maintenance of an updated ecological database. It is used from time to time to identify areas and species of conservation concern, based on which conservation plans are drawn up for their protection. In addition, it also serves as a scientific basis for AFCD to provide advice on nature conservation issues.
- (c) Since our ecological environment is constantly changing, we have to conduct statistical surveys to monitor and update the database from time to time. As such, AFCD will continue to conduct the survey programme and the related activities in 2010-11. The estimated expenditure involved is \$4 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 15 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB023

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

0049

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Please provide details of the Government's tree planting programme for different country parks in the coming year (i.e. 2010-11), including the numbers and types of trees to be planted and the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply:

In 2010-11, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department plans to plant some 700 000 tree seedlings in various country parks as follows:

Country Park	Number of seedlings to be planted in 2010-11
Ma On Shan	24 000
Lantau Country Parks	235 000
Sai Kung Country Parks	78 000
Tai Lam	220 000
Plover Cove	30 000
Pat Sin Leng	30 000
Lam Tsuen	20 000
Hong Kong Island	5 000
Clear Water Bay	10 000
Shing Mun	24 000
Golden Hill	24 000
Total	700 000

About 73% of the seedlings are native species while 27% are exotic species. The major species involved are as follows:

Species	Chinese common names
Native	
<i>Aporosa dioica</i>	銀柴
<i>Bischofia javanica</i>	秋楓
<i>Castanopsis fissa</i>	鰲蒴錐
<i>Liquidambar formosana</i>	楓香
<i>Machilus</i> species	潤楠屬品種
<i>Reevesia thyrsoidea</i>	梭羅樹
<i>Rhaphiolepis indica</i>	石斑木
<i>Sapium discolor</i>	山烏柏
<i>Schima</i> species	荷樹品種
<i>Syzygium</i> species	蒲桃品種
<i>Tutcheria spectabilis</i>	石筆木
Exotic	
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	耳葉相思
<i>Acacia confusa</i>	台灣相思
<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i>	木麻黃
<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	紅膠木
<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	白千層

The estimated total expenditure involved in the tree planting programme in 2010-11 is \$10.9 million.

Signature _____
 Name in block letters ALAN WONG
 Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation
 Date 12 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Subhead :
Development Department

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

The amount of public fill sent to the public fill reception facilities increased from 7.9 million tonnes in 2008 to 14.0 million tonnes in 2009 whereas it is expected to be 13.5 million tonnes in 2010. Please explain.

Has the Administration assessed when will the public fill reception facilities reach their limits of capacities? Will any study be conducted for providing public fill reception facilities in other locations? If yes, how much resources will be involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The quantities of public fill received at the public fill reception facilities vary from time to time and are dependent on the progress of developments in Hong Kong. Starting from 2009, surplus public fill had been generated from a number of major infrastructure projects resulting in a sharp increase in quantities of public fill received at the reception facilities. We expect the situation to be similar in 2010 as Hong Kong continues its major infrastructure projects.

Apart from reusing and recycling of the public fill received, we are delivering surplus public fill to Taishan for reclamation. We assess that the stockpiling capacities of the existing fill banks will be exhausted by 2011 if there is no delivery of the surplus public fill to the Mainland beyond 2010. The Environment Bureau and the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) are maintaining regular liaison with the relevant Mainland authorities to continue the arrangement of cross-boundary delivery of the surplus public fill. CEDD is also studying local options to tackle the surplus fill problem. The resources for conducting studies of options are absorbed by the resources of the Department.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 16.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

For the financial provision of \$1,144.3 million under Programme (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials,

- (a) how much government fund is expected to be involved for the 15.2 million tonnes of public fill delivered to the Mainland for beneficial reuse? And in this aspect, how much expenditures are involved for the last two years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2009-10)?
- (b) how much government fund is expected for the handling of the 0.08 million tonnes of recycled inert hard construction and demolition materials in 2010-11? And is there any change as compared with the last two years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2009-10) in terms of unit cost per tonne?
- (c) Please compare the unit cost per tonne for reusing the recycled materials in Hong Kong against delivering them to the Mainland for reuse.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew

Reply :

- (a) Civil Engineering and Development Department runs a contract for the operation of the local public fill reception facilities and the cross-boundary delivery of surplus public fill. For 2010, we estimate that a total of 15.2 million tonnes of surplus public fill will be delivered to the Mainland. The estimated expenditure in 2010-11 for contract payments, related staff costs and administrative overheads is \$1,144.3 million. This expenditure covers the delivery operation as well as the operation and maintenance of the local public fill reception facilities. The corresponding expenditure in the financial year of 2008-09 and the estimated expenditure in 2009-10 are \$486.0 million and \$957.4 million respectively.

- (b) The estimated expenditure for recycling the 80 000 tonnes of inert hard construction and demolition (C&D) materials in 2010 is about \$3.0 million. The unit recycling cost in 2010 under the contract has not changed significantly when compared with those in 2008 and 2009. This recycling cost does not include delivery cost since local contractors will make their own arrangement to transport recycled materials to their sites. The delivery cost may be dependent on the amount and distance of the materials delivered.
- (c) Recycled materials are normally reused locally and these materials are generally not delivered to the Mainland. No comparison can therefore be made between the cost of reusing the recycled materials locally and the cost of delivery of recycled materials to the Mainland.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 16.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB027

Question Serial No.

0608

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the construction of the upgrading works of Tai Po sewage treatment works stage 5 extension and Shatin sewage treatment works stage 3 extension, please inform the Committee of the work progress on, cost involved in and anticipated completion date for the works.

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

Project	Progress	Approved Project Estimate (\$ million)	Anticipated Completion Date
Tai Po sewage treatment works stage 5 extension	Works under phases 1 and 2A have been completed. Works under phase 2B to further expand the treatment capacity to 120 000 cubic metres (m ³)/day commenced in January 2010 for completion in September 2013.	1,175 (Total estimates for works under phases 1, 2A and 2B)	Phases 1 and 2A: Completed Phase 2B: September 2013
Shatin sewage treatment works stage 3 extension	Provision of new facilities for disinfection and expansion of treatment capacity from 150 000 to 280 000 m ³ /day have been completed. Modification of existing facilities to provide further expansion to 340 000 m ³ /day is on going for completion in late 2010. Additional odour management facilities are under construction for completion in August 2011.	2,425	August 2011

Signature _____

Name in block letters K K LAU

Post Title Director of Drainage Services

Date 15 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB028

Question Serial No.

0212

Head : 39 – Drainage Services DepartmentSubhead :Programme : (2) Sewage ServicesControlling Officer : Director of Drainage ServicesDirector of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : How many appeal cases of sewage charge and trade effluent surcharge were there in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10? Of which, how many were from the restaurant trade? How many appeal cases were approved? Of which, how many were from the restaurant trade? What is the average time needed to complete the processing of a case?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, TommyReply :

The number of applications and approved cases for reassessment of (i) trade effluent surcharge (TES) rate and (ii) discharge factor for sewage charge and TES in 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 are as follows:

		2007-08	2008-09 ⁽²⁾	2009-10 ⁽³⁾ (for 11 months only)
Reassessment of TES rate	Number of applications received			
	- All trades	335	200	278
	- Restaurant trade	264	133	260
	Number of applications approved ⁽¹⁾			
	- All trades	471	187	112
	- Restaurant trade	449	119	109
Reassessment of discharge factor	Number of applications received			
	- All trades	37	27	29
	- Restaurant trade	0	0	0
	Number of applications approved ⁽¹⁾			
	- All trades	39	8	18
	- Restaurant trade	0	0	0

Notes:

- As there is a time lag for processing the applications, the number of applications approved within a year may exceed the number of applications received.
- The drop in the number of applications received in 2008-09 was mainly due to the extension of the validity period of TES reassessments from one year to two years with effect from 1 July 2007 and then from two years to three years with effect from 1 August 2008.
- We have further extended the validity period of TES reassessments from two years to three years with effect from 1 August 2008. The extension was applicable to all reassessments which were still valid on 1 August 2008. As a result, we received the majority of reassessment applications (many of which are the deferred renewal applications) in the last few months of 2009-10. Many of them are still under processing and hence the relatively lower number of applications approved so far in 2009-10.

It normally takes three to four months to process a case.

Signature _____

Name in block letters K K LAUPost Title Director of Drainage ServicesDate 15 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB030

Question Serial No.

0362

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Administration indicated that it would continue with the construction of the sewage conveyance system and commence the construction of the sewage treatment plant upgrading works under the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme stage 2A. Please advise the details of works and the expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. HO Chung-tai, Raymond

Reply : The sewage conveyance system for the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme stage 2A (HATS stage 2A) mainly consists of tunnels of a total length of about 21 kilometres running from Apleichau to Sheung Wan, from North Point to Sheung Wan and from Sheung Wan to the Stonecutters Island. The sewage treatment plant upgrading works for the HATS stage 2A mainly involve the upgrading of eight preliminary treatment works on Hong Kong Island along the route of the sewage conveyance system, and the construction of a new main pumping station, additional treatment facilities and associated works, new disinfection facilities, and upgrading of sludge treatment and transportation facilities at the Stonecutters Island sewage treatment works.

The construction of the sewage conveyance system and other advance works commenced in July 2009 for completion in 2014. The estimated expenditure in 2010-11 is \$1,887 million. The funding application for the stage 2A remaining works for the upgrading of Stonecutters Island sewage treatment works and preliminary treatment works was endorsed by the Public Works Subcommittee in February 2010 and will be submitted to the Finance Committee for approval in April 2010. Construction works are scheduled to start in mid 2010 with an estimated expenditure of \$550 million in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **K K LAU**

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ **16 March 2010**

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB031

Question Serial No.

1853

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the construction of the trunk sewerage in Yuen Long South and the planning and design of the remaining trunk sewerage in Kam Tin and Yuen Long, please advise the work progress, cost involved and scheduled completion date.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply : The approved project estimate (APE) of the construction of trunk sewers at Yuen Long South is \$550.8 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices. The construction works commenced in September 2009 for completion in late 2013. The planning and design of the remaining trunk sewers in Yuen Long and Kam Tin, with an APE of \$28.0 million in MOD prices, are ongoing and will be completed in March 2013.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ K K LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 16 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB032

Question Serial No.

3011

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Government proposed to put in an additional \$7.9 billion for the remaining works of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme stage 2A project. What are the details for the project (including: construction schedule, actual annual estimated expenditure, posts created by the project for the grass-root labourer and middle-class)?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply : The remaining works of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme stage 2A (HATS stage 2A) constitute the scope of the works under 4341DS with an approved project estimate of \$7,913.4 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices, the funding application of which was endorsed by the Public Works Subcommittee in February 2010 and will be submitted to Finance Committee (FC) for consideration in April 2010.

The remaining works mainly involve the upgrading of eight preliminary treatment works on Hong Kong Island along the route of the sewage conveyance system, and the construction of a new main pumping station, additional treatment facilities and associated works, new disinfection facilities, and upgrading of sludge treatment and transportation facilities at the Stonecutters Island sewage treatment works. Subject to FC's funding approval, we will commence construction of the works in mid 2010 for commissioning HATS stage 2A in December 2014. The project expenditure will be phased over a period of eight years as follows:

Year	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Expenditure (\$ million)	550.0	865.7	1,253.1	1,672.5	1,172.0	1,083.9	782.8	533.4

We estimate that the proposed works will create about 1 455 jobs (1 180 for labourer and 275 for professional/technical staff) providing a total employment of about 59 600 man-months.

Signature _____

Name in block letters K K LAU

Post Title Director of Drainage Services

Date 16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB033

Question Serial No.

0137

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead:

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The budget of the programme for 2010-11 will be reduced by \$62.2 million, i.e. 25.4%, in comparison with the revised estimate for 2009-10. Please explain the reasons.

Please list out for 2009-10, which departments and subvented organisations had procured energy-saving equipment, what were the expenditures involved, what kinds of energy-saving equipment were involved? What is the anticipated reduction in carbon emission after using the energy-saving equipment?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

There was a one-off provision of \$130 million in 2009-10 for implementation of energy-saving projects as part of the job creation package, and this, together with other provision already earmarked for 2009-10, gave a total of \$200.4 million for energy-saving projects at various government departments and subvented organisations in that year, while the provision for procurement of energy-saving equipment in 2010-11 is \$131.2 million.

A sum of \$200.4 million approved in 2009-10 covered energy-saving projects in twenty departments and subvented organisations, including Fire Services Department, Immigration Department, Hong Kong Police Force, Drainage Services Department, Department of Health, Leisure and Cultural Services Department, Marine Department, Hospital Authority, etc. The energy-saving equipment include high energy efficiency lighting systems, occupancy lighting controls, light emitting diode (LED) spot lights, exit signs, energy efficient variable speed drives, energy efficient air conditioning systems, and high energy efficiency motors and pumps etc. It is estimated that about 12 600 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions would be reduced annually when the energy-saving equipment are completed for use.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB034

Question Serial No.

1912

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead :
Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Regarding the matters of LPG vehicles, please advise this Committee:

- (a) Will the Administration increase the number of LPG filling stations in Hong Kong? If yes, what are the details?
- (b) What measures will the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department take in 2010-11 to reduce the waiting time for refilling of LPG vehicles?

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

- (a) There will be three new LPG filling stations coming on stream in 2010. They are located at the Airport, Fanling and Stanley.
- (b) At present, there are 12 dedicated and 47 non-dedicated LPG filling stations in Hong Kong. They can meet the fuelling requirement of the entire fleet of taxis and light buses using LPG in Hong Kong. The queuing of LPG vehicles at some dedicated stations occurred mainly during shift-changing peak hours when a large number of LPG vehicles gathered there for refilling concurrently. To make refilling more convenient for LPG vehicles, the Government has a standing policy since 2000 to include the provision of LPG filling facilities in land sales requirement for petrol filling stations, subject to safety requirements being met. Moreover, the Government will continue to encourage LPG vehicle users to go for refilling during off-peak hours through the quarterly liaison meetings between the operators of dedicated stations and the LPG vehicle trades.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB035

Question Serial No.

0262

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead :
Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

With regard to the indicators of this programme, the numbers of inspections of vehicles and filling stations (all before granting of approval) are 44 (actual) for 2008, 43 (actual) for 2009 and 42 (estimate) for 2010. Please provide the reason for the decrease in number of inspections.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

This indicator includes the inspection of new vehicle models, new filling stations under construction, and new sites for filling stations. Comparing with 2008, more resources were allocated to inspect the three new filling stations under construction. The projected figure of 42 inspections for 2010 was based on the trend with respect to the actual outcome in 2008 and 2009.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

18 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB036

Question Serial No.

0264

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead :

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : For the indicators of the programme of renewable energy projects for Government and public bodies, please provide information in accordance with the format below:

Year	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity generated and cost saving	Reduction in carbon emission
2008				
2009				
2010				

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

The renewable energy installations completed in 2008 and 2009 are shown in the table below. The renewable energy installations planned to be installed in 2010 are also provided in the table.

Year	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity generated and cost saving	Reduction in carbon emission
2008	Fire Services Department	Chek Lap Kok Fire Station	60 000 kWh electricity generated and savings of about \$60,000 per annum.	Reduction of about 42 000 kg carbon dioxide per annum
	Correctional Services Department	Pik Uk Prison		
	Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, Hong Kong Museum of Art, Kowloon Park, Shatin Town Hall (Aviary Garden) and Tuen Mun Town Hall		
	Hospital Authority	Tseung Kwan O Hospital		
2009	Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Hong Kong Park, Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade, Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre, Kwai Tsing Theatre, Tso Kung Tam Outdoor Recreation Centre and Lady MacLehose Holiday Village	23 000 kWh electricity generated and savings of about \$23,000 per annum	Reduction of about 16 000 kg carbon dioxide per annum
	Government Property Agency	Cloudridge Quarters		
	The Prince Philip Dental Hospital	The Prince Philip Dental Hospital		

Year	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity generated and cost saving	Reduction in carbon emission
2010*	Education Bureau	Shau Kei Wan Government Secondary School, Chiu Lut Sau Memorial Secondary School, Yuen Long Government Primary School and Sheung Shui Government Secondary School	10 000 kWh electricity is expected to be generated and savings of about \$10,000 per annum	Estimated reduction of about 7 000 kg carbon dioxide per annum
	Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Lai Chi Kok Park, Middle Road Children's Playground, Tsuen Wan Jockey Club Tak Wah Park, and Tai Po Yuen Chau Tsai Park		

* Some renewable energy installations for 2010 are still under planning and subject to change.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____ 16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB037

Question Serial No.

0265

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead :

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please provide the information of the completed grid-connected renewable energy installations in accordance with the format below:

Year	Description of Installation	Buildings involved	Actual/estimated expenditure
2008			
2009			
2010			

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

The grid-connected renewable energy installations completed in 2008 and 2009 are shown in the table below. The grid-connected renewable energy installations planned to be installed in 2010 are also provided in the table.

Year	Description of Installation	Buildings involved	Actual/estimated expenditure
2008	Solar photovoltaic system	Chek Lap Kok Fire Station, Tseung Kwan O Hospital, Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence and Hong Kong Museum of Art	\$6.2 million (Actual)
2009	Solar photovoltaic system	The Prince Philip Dental Hospital, Cloudridge Quarters, Hong Kong Park and Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade	\$2.6 million (Actual)
2010*	Solar photovoltaic system	Shau Kei Wan Government Secondary School, Chiu Lut Sau Memorial Secondary School, Yuen Long Government Primary School and Sheung Shui Government Secondary School	\$2.3 million (Estimated)

* Some renewable energy installations for 2010 are under planning and subject to change.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date 16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB038

Question Serial No.

0363

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Subhead:
Services Department

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The budget of the programme (Programme 3) for 2010-11 is \$182,400,000, which is a 25.4% decrease as compared to the revised estimate of \$244,600,000 for last fiscal year. In recent years, the Government greatly promotes green economy, please advise the reasons for the substantial reduction to this budget.

Asked by : Hon. HO Chung-tai, Raymond

Reply :

The reduction in budget is mainly due to the difference in provisions for energy-saving projects for the two years. There was a one-off provision of \$130 million in 2009-10 for implementation of energy-saving projects as part of the job-creation package, and this, together with other provisions already earmarked for 2009-10, gave a total of \$200.4 million for energy saving projects at various government departments and subvented organisations in that year, while the provision for procurement of energy-saving equipment in 2010-11 is \$131.2 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____ 15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB039

Question Serial No.

1989

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead :

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : On Programme (3), please provide the following information:

- (a) It is planned to implement 175 energy-saving projects in 2010 for government and public bodies, please provide details of these energy-saving projects, manpower and resources involved, and the anticipated energy saving and effectiveness ; and
- (b) details of renewable energy projects and innovative energy efficiency research and development studies implemented for government and public bodies in the past five years (i.e. 2005-06 to 2009-10), and is there any plan for implementing new projects.

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply :

(a) In 2010, 175 energy-saving projects will be implemented for government and public bodies. The scope of these projects include high energy efficiency lighting systems, occupancy lighting controls, LED spot lights, exit signs, energy efficient variable speed drives, energy efficient air conditioning systems, and high energy efficiency motors and pumps etc. The provision for procurement of energy-saving equipment in 2010-11 is \$131.2 million. The incurred workload will be absorbed by the existing manpower. It is estimated that about 18 million kWh would be saved annually when the energy-saving projects are completed for use.

(b) In the past five years, the following renewable energy installations and research and development studies have been implemented:

Renewable Energy Installations

Year	Description of Installations	Venues at which the Renewable Energy Installations have been Provided
2005-06	Renewable energy installations including photovoltaic systems	Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Headquarters, Penny's Bay Fire Station, Penny's Bay Police Post and Princess Margaret Hospital
2006-07	Renewable energy installations including photovoltaic systems	Shek Wu Hui Sewage Treatment Works and Pak Kong Water Treatment Works
2007-08	Renewable energy installations including photovoltaic systems, and solar water heating systems	Airport Police Station, Government Flying Services Headquarters, Kowloon Hospital (Rehabilitation Block), Hong Kong Science Museum, Government House, King's College, Pak Sha Wan Correctional Institution and Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Headquarters

Year	Description of Installations	Venues at which the Renewable Energy Installations have been Provided
2008-09	Renewable energy installations including photovoltaic systems, solar water heating systems and solar lights	Chek Lap Kok Fire Station, Tseung Kwan O Hospital, Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, Hong Kong Museum of Art, Pik Uk Prison, Kowloon Park, Shatin Town Hall (Aviary Garden) and Tuen Mun Town Hall
2009-10	Renewable energy installations including photovoltaic systems, building integrated photovoltaic systems and solar lights	The Prince Philip Dental Hospital, Cloutridge Quarters, Hong Kong Park, Tsim Sha Tsui Promenade, Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre, Kwai Tsing Theatre, Tso Kung Tam Outdoor Recreation Centre and Lady MacLehose Holiday Village

Research and Development Studies

Year	Description of Research and Development Studies
2005-06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lighting retrofit technologies ● Solar control window films ● Service-on-demand escalator
2006-07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Automatic tube cleansing technologies for chillers ● Heat pipe solar water heating system ● Application of brushless DC motor fan coil unit
2007-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dual cycle heat pump system ● Pump control optimisation for air-conditioning system ● Solar-assisted air-conditioning system
2008-09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sun tracking photovoltaic system ● Oil-free variable speed compressor chiller ● Refrigerant oil contamination purger
2009-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Total hydronic balancing of chilled water circuits ● Heat pipe application in central air-conditioning system ● New energy efficient lighting - ceramic metal halide lamp

For 2010-11, eight renewable energy projects will be implemented, covering photovoltaic panels, wind turbines, solar lights etc. at various schools and amenity venues. There is also a plan to conduct three research and development studies in 2010-11 on electromagnetic induction water treatment technology for air-conditioning plants, scroll compressor technology for air-conditioning systems and new lighting technology for replacing less energy efficient lighting.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date 16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB040

Question Serial No.

2578

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead :
Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

In the Indicators of the Programme, the number of the electrical workers/contractors/competent persons registration applications to be processed will drastically increase to 40 000 in 2010. The Department indicated that this is due to the peak in the registration renewal in the coming year. As such, please advise the adequacy of manpower and resources in handling the relevant registration. Please also provide the detailed arrangement and the manpower and expenditure forecast for handling the registration and renewal applications.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

In preparation for the peak of the registration renewal in 2010, we have already planned to deploy additional manpower and resources to ensure smooth handling of the increase in registration renewal in that year. The additional manpower and resources are met by redeployment of existing resources within this department. We shall handle the applications according to the established procedures. As the officers involved in the registration and renewal applications are also entrusted to handle other enforcement duties at the same time, there is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved in handling the registration and renewal applications.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB041

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead :
Department

Question Serial No.

3157

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

- (a) In the section on “Indicators”, the estimated number of approval and revalidation of LPG fuel tanks in vehicles in the coming year will be increased to 6 400. Would the Department advise whether adequate manpower and resources have been earmarked for in handling the approval and revalidation work? If so, please provide the manpower and the related expenditure in the coming year for taking on this item.
- (b) In view of the recent large number of LPG vehicle stalling incidents, will the Administration deploy additional manpower and resources in the coming year to provide support to the drivers of LPG vehicles, for example to assist the vehicle owners to conduct analysis and inspection, and also to assist the vehicle owners to seek compensation from the related fuel supplier and vehicle manufacturer. If so, please advise details.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) is deploying existing resources as needed to handle the additional workload arising from the approval and revalidation of LPG fuel tanks in vehicles. The task is undertaken by a team of engineers and inspectors whose responsibilities cover a wide range of regulatory duties over the LPG supply chain for LPG vehicles. There is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure for this particular duty.
- (b) The EMSD will conduct comprehensive reviews of the monitoring of supply and the quality of auto-LPG, with a view to strengthening the monitoring measures, and will deploy necessary resources to implement the strengthened measures.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

18 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead :
Department

Programme: (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the studies on the long-term market structure for the electricity market, please advise the work plan and estimated expenditure in the next two years (i.e. 2010-11 and 2011-12).

Asked by: Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply:

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department will continue to provide technical support to the Environment Bureau (ENB) to conduct studies on the long-term market structure for the electricity market. The studies being conducted cover the exploration of various options of a new market mechanism and the associated regulatory framework for the electricity market, with due regard to the unique situation of Hong Kong. The cost of such technical support will be absorbed by existing resources. As the officers providing technical support to ENB also handle other duties at the same time, there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure for each task.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date 16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB043

Question Serial No.

0126

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead:
Department

Programme: (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) estimates that there will be 6 400 liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) fuel tanks in vehicles approved and revalidated in 2010. This figure is based on the number of revalidation cases to be processed every 5 years since the introduction of LPG taxi incentive scheme in 2000. Please advise:

- (a) During the first revalidation exercise in 2005, how many LPG fuel tanks were processed? How many LPG fuel tanks were approved? How many LPG fuel tanks were required to be replaced? What are the expected outcomes in 2010?
- (b) Does it involve additional manpower?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

- (a) In 2005, the total number of LPG fuel tanks in vehicles approved and revalidated was 6 868. All the LPG fuel tanks were approved and revalidated. In 2010, the estimated number of LPG fuel tanks in vehicles due for revalidation is 6 400.
- (b) EMSD is deploying existing resources to handle the workload in respect of approval and revalidation of LPG fuel tanks.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

15 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead :
Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Given the incident of large numbers of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) taxis stalling happened early this year, drivers suspected that it was related to the quality of LPG supply. However, the estimates on EMSD's inspections of vehicles and filling stations for 2010 are similar to those of 2008 and 2009. Please advise:

- (a) Will EMSD enhance the number of inspections on filling stations to ensure safety?
- (b) Will the inspection of filling station include LPG storage tanks, dispensing nozzles and petroleum fuel?
- (c) Will EMSD deploy more manpower and increase the expenditures on these two aspects?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

- (a) A number of measures have been put in place to strengthen the monitoring on LPG supply. Apart from site inspection, a random sampling scheme on LPG quality has been launched, under which samples of LPG from different filling stations will be collected on a random basis every week for laboratory testing. The estimated number of inspections on the approved LPG filling stations is projected on the basis of the number of approved LPG filling stations and planned quarterly inspections. The number of inspections will remain the same as there is no major change in the number of LPG filling stations.
- (b) The inspections aim to ensure gas safety and service quality, which involve the checking of the safety of LPG storage and filling facilities, LPG replenishing arrangement and operation of LPG filling facilities.
- (c) EMSD will conduct comprehensive reviews of the monitoring of supply and the quality of auto-LPG, with a view to strengthening the monitoring measures, and will deploy necessary resources to implement the strengthened measures.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

18 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead:
Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) estimated that in 2010, the approval and revalidation of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) fuel tanks in vehicles would be greatly increased from 2009 to 2010 by three times to 6 400. This is due to the fact that the LPG taxi incentive scheme was launched in 2000, the number of five-yearly LPG fuel tank revalidations to be processed would therefore increase in 2010. Please advise the estimated expenditure and whether any additional resources is required for the five-yearly revalidation. If required, please provide details.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

EMSD is deploying existing resources to handle the additional workload in respect of approval and revalidation of LPG fuel tanks in 2010. There is no separate breakdown of the expenditure involved in performing this particular duty.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB046

Question Serial No.

0766

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead :
Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) received around a thousand of enquiries/complaints concerning LPG vehicle safety in both 2008 and 2009. What are the contents of these enquiries/complaints? Please categorise. What are the resources and expenditure involved in handling these enquiries/complaints on LPG vehicle safety?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

Of the enquiries/complaints received, over 97% were enquiries related to LPG fuel tank revalidation, operation of LPG filling stations, enlistment of competent persons and safe use of LPG vehicles. The remaining 3% were complaints related to operation of LPG filling stations. The handling of enquiries/complaints is undertaken by a team of engineers and inspectors whose responsibilities cover a wide range of regulatory duties over the LPG supply chain for vehicles. There is no separate breakdown of resources and expenditure involved in handling enquires and complaints.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB047

Question Serial No.

1851

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead :
Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

With regard to the upgrade of the Integrated Gas Safety Enforcement System, please advise the work progress and the associated expenditure in the past two years (i.e. 2008-09 and 2009-10), and the work target and budget in 2010-11?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

The total cost for upgrading of the software of the Integrated Gas Safety Enforcement System was \$1.65 million, with expenditure spreading over 2008-09 and 2009-10 in the amount of \$0.47 million and \$1.18 million respectively. The upgrading work commenced on 15 July 2008, and was satisfactorily completed on 6 December 2009.

Hardware upgrade with an estimate of \$0.2 million will proceed in 2010-11, with completion scheduled for end 2010.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB048

Question Serial No.

1855

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead :

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : 1. Regarding the promotion of energy efficiency issue, please provide the following information:

- (a) details, expenditure and effectiveness of energy efficiency and energy-saving projects carried out by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) for other government departments in the past two years (i.e. 2008-09 and 2009-10),;
- (b) the proposed energy efficiency and energy-saving projects and the estimated expenditure in the next three years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13).

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

(a) EMSD completed 55 and 39 energy-saving projects in 2008 and 2009 respectively. The scope of these projects include high energy efficiency lighting systems, occupancy lighting controls, LED spot lights, exit signs, energy efficient variable speed drives, energy efficient air conditioning systems, and high energy efficiency motors and pumps etc. The total expenditure for implementing the energy-saving projects for other government departments in 2008-09 and 2009-10 was about \$194 million. The total energy expected to be saved from the implementation of projects commenced in 2008-09 and 2009-10 would be about 20.5 million kWh per year.

(b) For 2010-11, there is a provision of \$131.2 million in the budget for implementing energy-saving projects for other government departments and subvented bodies. The energy-saving projects to be implemented for 2011-12 and 2012-13 are still under planning and the expenditure is yet to be determined.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB049

Question Serial No.

1856

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the promotion of public awareness on energy efficiency and conservation, please provide the following information:

- (a) the work of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) in 2009-10 under this Programme, and the expenditure and effectiveness of each activity; and
- (b) the promotional activities to be held in 2010-11 and the expenditure of each activity.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

- (a) The expenditure for promoting public awareness on energy efficiency and conservation in 2009-10 is about \$1 million. The promotional activities include seminars, tours of the Education Path of the EMSD Headquarters, campaigns and publications to enhance public awareness on energy efficiency and conservation.

The promotional activities held, such as seminars, were usually well over-subscribed with positive feedback from participants.

- (b) Similar promotional activities will continue in 2010-11 and the estimated expenditure is about \$1 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____ 16 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB050

Question Serial No.

1627

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead:
Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Regarding Electrical Safety, please provide the following information –

- (a) The number of new applications, renewal applications and rejection of new, renewal and change of grade applications for electrical workers (REW), contractors (REC) and competent persons (CP) in 2007, 2008 and 2009; and
- (b) The number of prosecution/disciplinary cases for REW, REC, CP and owners of electrical installation in 2007, 2008 and 2009.

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

- (a) The number of new applications, renewal applications and rejection of new, renewal and change of grade applications for REW, REC and CP in 2007, 2008 and 2009 are tabulated below:

		2007	2008	2009	
(i)	Number of new applications	REW	2 861	2 887	2 082
		REC	756	658	805
		CP	94	60	57
(ii)	Number of renewal applications	REW	30 606	21 392	12 393
		REC	3 582	1 693	1 592
		CP	173	139	98

		2007	2008	2009	
(iii)	Number of change of grade applications	REW	930	842	560
		REC	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
		CP	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
(iv)	Number of rejection of new, renewal and change of grade applications	REW	40	22	138
		REC	8	0	3
		CP	14	15	25

(b) The number of prosecution/disciplinary cases for REW, REC, CP and owners of electrical installation in 2007, 2008 and 2009 are tabulated below:

		2007	2008	2009
(i)	Number of prosecution/disciplinary cases for REW	8	4	8
(ii)	Number of prosecution/disciplinary cases for REC	1	0	2
(iii)	Number of prosecution/disciplinary cases for CP	0	0	0
(iv)	Number of prosecution/disciplinary cases for owners of electrical installation	169	646	439

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB051

Question Serial No.

2622

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead :

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department will continue research and development works on the application of innovative energy efficiency technologies. In this regard, please provide the following information:

- (a) whether light emitting diode (LED) lighting technology will be included in the research and development works in 2010-11;
- (b) details of the scheduled research and development works on the application of innovative energy efficiency technologies and the expenditure to be incurred in 2010-11; and
- (c) details of the completed research and development works on the application of innovative energy efficiency technologies in 2008-09 and 2009-10 and the expenditure incurred.

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

- (a) The LED lighting technology will be included in the research and development works in 2010-11, as part of the research and development study on new lighting technology for replacing less energy efficient lighting.
- (b) The scheduled research and development works in 2010-11 include studies on electromagnetic induction water treatment technology for air-conditioning plants, scroll compressor technology for air-conditioning systems and new lighting technology for replacing less energy efficient lighting. The estimated expenditure is about \$1.2 million.
- (c) The research and development studies completed in 2008-09 and 2009-10 and the expenditure incurred are summarised below:

Year	Research and development studies	Total cost
2008-09	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Sun tracking photovoltaic system● Oil-free variable speed compressor chiller● Refrigerant oil contamination purger	\$2.13 million
2009-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Total hydronic balancing of chilled water circuits● Heat pipe application in central air-conditioning system● New energy efficient lighting - ceramic metal halide lamp	\$1.27 million

Signature _____

Name in block letters Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date 16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB052

Question Serial No.

0027

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What are the major areas and subject matters of waste complaints? Why is the rate of initial response to waste complaints within three days set at 98% in 2010, which is lower than the actual rate of 99% in 2008 and 2009? How will the expenditure concerned be affected?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

- (i) In 2009, there were 3 940 complaints concerning waste related issues processed by the Environmental Protection Department; covering improper disposal of the following waste categories:-

2009 Waste Complaint by Major Category	No. of cases	Percentage
Improper deposition of waste, mainly construction and demolition waste	3 499	89.00%
Improper handling of chemical waste, mainly lube oil and asbestos-containing waste	255	6.50%
Livestock rearing in waste control areas	101	2.50%
Miscellaneous (e.g. improper discharge of oily waste, marine dumping)	85	2.00%
Total	3 940	100.00%

- (ii) The projection for 2010 target (98%) is based on our past experience in the lead time required to look into waste complaints before an initial response of the complaints can be made.
- (iii) The estimated rate for 2010 has no impact on the expenditure in the fiscal year 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB053

Question Serial No.

0028

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : How many resources are reserved for the feasibility study on the municipal solid waste charging scheme in this year's budget? What are the subject matters and directions of the study? When will the study be completed and what will be the follow-up action in future?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

As part of the examination of possible options on municipal solid waste charging in Hong Kong, we conducted a trial scheme on the logistical arrangements for waste separation, recovery and disposal in different domestic housing settings in the first quarter of 2007. Furthermore, a baseline study to collect information on waste generation pattern and waste management practices among different types of commercial and industrial establishments is being conducted and expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2010. The expenditure for this baseline study is \$1.25 million which will be expended before the end of the 2009-10 financial year. The information collected from the trial scheme and the baseline study would facilitate the development of possible municipal solid waste charging options, having regard to the policy objective of providing economic incentives for the public to avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle waste as stated in "A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014)".

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB054

Question Serial No.

0129

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : How to monitor the effectiveness of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags? What are the manpower and expenditure involved? Since the levy scheme was implemented in July 2009, how many fewer plastic bags have been distributed by retailers in total?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) monitors the effectiveness of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags (the Levy Scheme) through regular inspection of registered retail outlets, monitoring the number of plastic shopping bags they distributed and the associated levy income, as well as conducting relevant surveys. A ten-member dedicated team has been established in EPD to take forward the enforcement work on the Levy Scheme. Other works involving the Levy Scheme are undertaken by EPD's staff as part of their normal duties and do not incur additional expenditure in 2010-11.

With reference to the quarterly returns submitted to the Government by registered retailers, the projected full-year figure for 2010-11 of plastic shopping bags distributed by prescribed retailers is some 52 million, with a levy income of about \$26 million. This may be translated to some 90% reduction in the number of plastic shopping bags being issued by prescribed retailers based on a 2009 pre-levy survey.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB055

Question Serial No.

1259

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : How much waste was received respectively by the different strategic landfills in the past three years (i.e. 2007 to 2009)? What are the reasons for having the estimated amount of waste received in 2010 lower than the actual amount of waste received in 2009 by 45 tonnes?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The quantities of waste received at the three strategic landfills in 2007, 2008 and 2009 are as follows:

	2007 (tonnes)	2008 (tonnes)	2009 (tonnes)
West New Territories (WENT) Landfill	2 286 800	2 227 616	2 059 597
South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill	1 966 058	1 886 753	1 893 329
North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill	821 261	827 894	911 119
Total quantity	5 074 120	4 942 263	4 864 045

(Note: Individual waste figures may not add up to the total quantities due to rounding off.)

For the year 2010, we anticipate that the quantity of domestic waste disposed of at landfills may continue to decrease, the commercial and industrial waste may maintain a mild rising trend while the construction waste and special waste may not change significantly. Therefore, overall speaking, the total quantity of waste received at landfills in 2010 is forecast to be similar to that of 2009. The difference of 45 tonnes between the 2009 actual figure and the 2010 estimated figure is due to rounding-off.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB056

Question Serial No.

1260

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : How many households joined the Source Separation of Domestic Waste Programme in the past three years (i.e. 2007 to 2009)? What was the specific amount of reduction in domestic waste disposed at landfill? How many households are expected to join the programme this year? Will there be any additional resources for its promotion?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department has been encouraging community participation in waste recovery and recycling through the territory-wide Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste since January 2005. The number of housing estates joining the programme and the amount of domestic waste disposed of at landfills for the past three years are given in the following table:

Year	Number of housing estates joining the programme (cumulative figures)	Estimated number of households covered (cumulative figures)	Domestic waste disposed of at landfills (million tonnes)
2007	766	987 000	2.326
2008	996	1 234 000	2.226
2009	1 256	1 570 000	2.195

Through implementing source separation and other waste reduction measures, there is a cumulative reduction of 14.5% of domestic waste disposed of at landfills since January 2005, and the recovery rate of domestic waste has increased from 16% in 2005 to 35% (preliminary estimate) in 2009.

We intend to further expand the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste to achieve a coverage of 80% of the population (about 1 870 000 households) by 2010. We spent \$7.37 million in 2009-10 on the programme and we plan to spend around \$11.8 million in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB057

Question Serial No.

1474

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please provide the names of enterprises which have leased land in the EcoPark, total amount of their investments, types of their products and markets, volume of their annual production and the number of their employees.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

All six lots in Phase I of EcoPark have been let out. The details of the tenants and recycling processes are summarized below:

Tenants	Recycled materials/ Products	Minimum capital investment ^[Note]	Minimum annual throughput ^[Note]
Hong Kong Hung Wai Wooden Board Company	Shredded wood chip	\$6 million	2 400 tonnes
Li Tong Group	Dismantled electronic components	\$6 million	1 200 tonnes
Champway Technology Ltd	Biodiesel	\$6 million	6 000 tonnes
Hong Kong Telford Envirotech Group Ltd	Plastic flakes, chips and pellets	\$2 million	4 000 tonnes
Shiu Wing Metal Ltd	Sorted and sheared scrap metals	\$8 million	40 000 tonnes
Cosmos Star Holdings Company Ltd	Dismantled battery components	\$2 million	120 tonnes

[Note] Minimum capital investment and throughput under the respective tenancy agreements .

In addition, two waste recycling centres, one for processing of waste plastics and one for waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), are being set up at Phase II of the EcoPark with a view to providing secured outlets for these recyclables with relatively limited market demand. The two centres will be run by non-profit making organisations for three years with a subsidy of \$10 million each from the Environment and Conservation Fund. The plastic recycling centre will process about 20 tonnes per day of locally collected waste plastics and the WEEE recycling centre will process about 200 tonnes per year of WEEE. The processed materials will be sold to the recycling market and some refurbished WEEE will be donated to the needy. The waste plastics recycling centre started operation in March 2010 while the WEEE recycling centre is expected to commence operation in mid 2010.

It is estimated that there would be over 200 jobs created upon full commissioning of the above recycling operation.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 12 March 2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB058

Question Serial No.

1475

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Would the Administration earmark resources to conduct feasibility study on the extension of the EcoPark or on setting up EcoParks in other areas? If yes, what are the resources revolved? What are the subject matters and directions of the study?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The 20-hectare EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38 is developed in two phases. All the six lots in Phase I have been leased out while the infrastructure works of Phase II of the EcoPark will be substantially completed later this year.

The Environmental Protection Department will monitor closely the progress in developing the EcoPark in Tuen Mun before considering expanding the existing EcoPark or to develop a new EcoPark elsewhere.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB059

Question Serial No.

1496

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : “The number of days with air pollution index not exceeding 100” in 2010 is expected to be higher than those of 2008 and 2009, but the annual average air pollution index remains at the level of 2009 (both at “49”). What are the reasons for that? Is the expectation made on the basis of data collected from general monitoring stations or roadside monitoring stations?

The target of annual average air pollution index is currently set at “50”. Will the Administration consider lowering the target index? If yes, what are the resources involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

Both the targets on “the number of days with API not exceeding 100” and “the annual average API” are made on the basis of the data collected from the general and roadside monitoring stations.

The number of days with API not exceeding 100 counts those days in which no monitoring stations register an API exceeding 100 in any hour within such days. Whether the API level at a station will breach 100 in any hours of a day depends largely on the day-to-day variations in weather conditions, apart from the quantity of air pollutant emissions. In recent years, 2008 and 2009 had more occurrences of weather conditions conducive to the formation of ozone, which aggravated the oxidation of nitrogen monoxide emitted from motor vehicles to nitrogen dioxide, resulting in more incidents of roadside API exceeding 100 in these two years. Hence, these two years had fewer days with API not exceeding 100, i.e., 272 days for 2008 and 256 days for 2009. When estimating the target number of days with API not exceeding 100 for 2010, we expect that the number will be higher than those of 2008 and 2009 on the assumption that the weather conditions in 2010 will be closer to the norm and that the air quality will also improve due to the implementation of emission control measures. We have therefore put down a crude estimate of 280 days with API not exceeding 100 for 2010.

The annual average API refers to the average of all the API readings registered over a whole year period. Such an annual average reading is less sensitive to day-to-day fluctuations in weather than the number of days with API not exceeding 100. Since high API readings make up a small proportion of the whole set of API data in a year, the annual average API is less sensitive to air quality changes. Noting that the annual average API remained at 50 from 2006 to 2008 before dropping to 49 in 2009, we have therefore set the target for 2010 at the same level of 2009 at 49 as a ballpark estimate.

The target of annual average API is currently set at 50, which represents the compliance level of the long-term (annual) Air Quality Objectives. We have no plan to revise the target at this stage.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB060

Question Serial No.

1502

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : When will the organic waste treatment facilities be expected to formally commence operation? What is the amount of food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors expected to be treated by the said facilities per day? How much does it account for the total food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors? What are the specific channels for collecting food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

According to our current planning, the first phase of the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) is expected to be commissioned by 2013-14. The facilities could treat 200 tonnes of source-separated food waste each day, which amounts to about 24% of the food waste generated from the commercial and industrial (C&I) sectors in 2008. We are currently engaging the trade on discussion of the mode of operation for collection of source-separated food waste from the C&I sectors for treatment at the OWTF. As the facilities will only be commissioned by 2013-14, there will be no manpower and expenditure involved in the collection of food waste to the facilities in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB061

Question Serial No.

1503

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Has the Administration earmarked any resources for studying methods of treatment of domestic food waste and for stepping up publicity for producing less food waste?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

Over the years, the Government has carried out numerous publicity activities such as talks and exhibitions to convey the message of food waste reduction. We have also made use of the Environment and Conservation Fund to support public education and promotion programmes on food waste reduction, including the reservation of \$50 million for supporting existing schools to conduct retrofitting works and facilities installation necessary for implementing "on-site meal portioning" so as to reduce food waste generated at schools. We have conducted studies to look into how the food waste from the commercial and industrial sector could be treated as it is more readily to be source separated for collection. So far, we have not conducted any similar studies on the food waste generated from the domestic sector.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB062

Question Serial No.

1504

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What is the completion date for devising green procurement guidelines for government departments? How will the green procurement policy be promoted to all departments and what are the resources involved? Will the departments with higher quantities and amounts of procurement be first required to observe the guidelines? If yes, what are the departments involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

From time to time, Environmental Protection Department (EPD) provides green procurement guidelines to all government bureaux and departments, advising them to purchase products that are environmentally friendly (e.g. has less packaging, is made of recycled materials etc.), and reduce the consumption of stores (e.g. paper) insofar as practicable. Since 2000, we have amended the Stores and Procurement Regulations to require all government bureaux and departments to give consideration, as far as possible and where economically rational, to purchase products that are more environmentally friendly. Up till now, the EPD has already developed green specifications for 14 categories of products, and the details are uploaded to EPD's website. It is our standing policy that where products with the developed green specifications are available in the market and where economically rational, the Government would procure these green products. Meanwhile, we are developing green specifications for three other categories of products.

All bureaux and departments have to follow the green procurement guidelines.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB063

Question Serial No.

1505

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the provision of air quality information and air pollution index to the public, are there any resources earmarked for increasing the number of air quality monitoring stations so as to collect more relevant data?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply .:

The geographical coverage of the current air quality monitoring network, which comprises 14 stations, can provide representative air quality information to the public. We have no plan to include additional air quality monitoring stations into the network. However, we have earmarked \$2.4 million in 2010-11 to extend the capability of measuring the concentration of fine particulate matters (PM_{2.5}) from 5 stations to all 14 stations to provide more comprehensive air quality information. In addition, we have also earmarked \$3.5 million for measuring photochemical compounds to facilitate analysis of the photochemical smog problem in the Pearl River Delta region.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB064

Question Serial No.

1506

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please provide details of the \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund, including application procedures and criteria, ceiling of the grant for each application, number of grants to be made, timeframe for introducing the Fund and the anticipated effect on emission reduction.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

We are drawing up the implementation details of the operation of the Pilot Green Transport Fund. In the process, we are soliciting views of relevant stakeholders, including the public transport operators, technology and vehicle suppliers, and professional bodies. Detailed arrangements on the application procedures, criteria and monitoring arrangements will be presented when we are in a position to consult the Legislative Council.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG** _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 15 March 2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
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INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB065

Question Serial No.

1507

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : When will the study on the post-2010 air pollutant emission reduction arrangements for the Pearl River Delta Region in co-operation with the Department of Environmental Protection of Guangdong Province be completed? Are there any additional resources involved in the implementation of measures for complying with the emission reduction arrangements mentioned above?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

Hong Kong and Guangdong are undertaking a study to look into the post-2010 air emission reduction arrangements for the Pearl River Delta region. We aim to complete the study within 2010. The study is being conducted using in-house resources and will not incur additional expenses. The financial and staffing implications of implementing the necessary emission control measures for achieving the emission reduction to be recommended under the study will have to be assessed individually in the light of further studies.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB066

Question Serial No.

1508

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What is the total number of visitors recorded since the opening of the Hong Kong National Geopark so far? Was there any person involved in major vandalism in the Geopark? How many resources have been earmarked in 2010-11 for the promotion of tourism in Geopark and the related conservation work? Is additional manpower required for the management of Geopark?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

According to the survey conducted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), it is estimated that some 600 000 visitors have visited the Hong Kong National Geopark (the Geopark) since its opening in November 2009. So far, there have not been any cases of major vandalism taking place in the Geopark.

In 2010-11, a total of \$22.6 million will be allocated to the AFCD under Programme (2) ("Nature Conservation and Country Parks") of Head 22- AFCD, for the management of the Geopark. This provision has already included the emoluments for the necessary manpower resources for the management of the Geopark.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

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INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB067

Question Serial No.

1520

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What specific work is being done for coordination of the efforts in combating climate change by the Administration? Are additional resources so involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The Administration established an Inter-departmental Working Group on Climate Change (the Working Group) under the lead of the Environment Bureau to strengthen co-ordination of government efforts in tackling climate change. It comprises representatives from five bureaux and 16 departments. The Working Group is steering the consultancy study being carried out on climate change in Hong Kong. It has provided comments and suggestions on various tasks of the study, including the greenhouse gas emission inventory compilation methodologies and on vulnerability assessment. In addition, the Working Group reviewed tasks undertaken by individual departments in combating climate change; and exchanged information on the latest development of the issue at international discussions. It has also coordinated departments' participation in discussion of climate change and related issues at international fora such as Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation and C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, so as to learn from overseas experience and to share outcome of the work of different governments. The Working Group mechanism does not incur additional expenditure.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
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INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB068

Question Serial No.

1521

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What is the completion date for the consultancy study on climate change? What is the scope involved in assessing its impact on Hong Kong?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department commissioned "A Study of Climate Change in Hong Kong" in 2008. The consultancy would review and update the local inventories of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and removals; project the future trends of GHG and removals; project the future trends in GHG emissions under different scenarios; characterize the impacts of climate change in Hong Kong, including identifying key areas of vulnerability in Hong Kong; and recommend additional strategies and measures to further reduce GHG emissions as well as to adapt to climate change. The consultancy study is expected to be completed in mid-2010.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
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INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB069

Question Serial No.

0678

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As indicated in the 2010-11 Budget, the Administration will reserve \$540 million to subsidise the replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles. Will the Administration consider raising the grant level from the current 12% to 18% to a higher percentage? Will the Administration also use more innovative promotion approaches (e.g. the sooner the vehicle is replaced, the higher the grant will be offered) to encourage vehicle owners to replace their vehicles earlier? For example, vehicles to be replaced in 2010 are entitled to a concessionary rate of 120% and the rate will be reduced to 110% for vehicles replaced in 2011, i.e. the rate will be reduced by year.

Asked by : Hon. Chan Kin-por

Reply :

In line with the arrangement for Euro I diesel commercial vehicles, we propose to set the grant level for the replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles at 18% of the average vehicle taxable values of newly registered vehicles. This subsidy level should provide sufficient incentives for vehicle owners to replace their Euro II diesel commercial vehicles. Given that the overall provision is reserved at \$540 million and that the scheme lasts only for 36 months, the suggestion of reducing progressively the grant level by year may confuse eligible vehicle owners while the differences in subsidy should not be too significant to weaken the incentive to late participants. Moreover, such an arrangement may inadvertently penalize owners of those vehicles that require longer time for vehicle delivery or body building.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB070

Question Serial No.

0687

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Programme (2) of the Environmental Protection Department, it is stated that a bill will be put forward for scrutiny by the Legislative Council on introducing a ban on idling vehicles with running engines. Actually, the switching off idling engine proposal has been discussed for quite a long time and the Administration originally planned to introduce a bill to the Legislative Council last year, can the Administration advise this Committee the reasons for deferring the legislative work. Has the Administration's stance on switching off idling engine been changed? Whether the subject matters of the proposal will be revised?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Kin-por

Reply :

The five-month public consultation on introducing a ban on idling vehicles running their engines was completed in March 2008. Subsequent to the public consultation, we further consulted the transport trades and put forward in early 2009 to the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs a revised proposal, which seeks to balance the aspiration of the public for better air quality, the operational needs of the transport trades and the practicability of enforcement. The Panel agreed that we should proceed to draft a Bill to effect the ban on the basis of the revised proposal.

To cater for the operational needs of the transport trades, the Bill has to provide suitable exemption arrangements. To avoid ambiguity and abuses, we have taken considerable time to set out these exemption provisions in the Bill. We are now finalizing the Bill and intend to table it to the Legislative Council for scrutiny in the 2009-10 legislative session.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB071

Question Serial No.

0688

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Programme (2) of the Environmental Protection Department, it is stated that the Department will continue to look into the post-2010 air pollutant emission reduction arrangements for the Pearl River Delta Region in co-operation with the Department of Environmental Protection of Guangdong Province. Actually, the Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Management Plan will soon expire. Can the Administration advise this Committee the overall effectiveness of the plan? What is the progress of the post-2010 air pollutant emission reduction arrangements being negotiated with Guangdong Province?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Kin-por

Reply :

To achieve the 2010 emission reduction targets, both governments of Hong Kong and Guangdong have drawn up a Pearl River Delta (PRD) Regional Air Quality Management Plan. The Plan contains emission reduction measures that focus on power plants, vehicles and the more polluting industrial processes. Both sides are working in earnest in implementing the Plan and are committed to meeting the 2010 emission reduction targets. With the implementation of this comprehensive emission reduction programme, the local emissions of the key air pollutants fell by 13% to 54% between 1997 and 2008. Both sides are also undertaking a study to look into the post-2010 air emission reduction arrangements for the PRD region. We aim to complete the study within 2010.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB072

Question Serial No.

0689

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Programme (2) of the Environmental Protection Department, it is stated that the Department will work out in the light of the feedback of the public consultation a way forward for updating the air quality objectives. Since the consultation work was completed at the end of last year, would the Administration advise the initial findings of the consultation? When will the complete consultation report be published?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Kin-por

Reply :

The public consultation for the Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) Review ended on 30 November 2009. During the consultation, we received a total of 2 175 written submissions. In addition, we conducted 68 meetings with key stakeholders and two telephone surveys to gauge the views of the community. The initial findings show that there is general support in the community for the new AQOs and air quality improvement measures proposed in the Review. We are now carefully examining the views collected for deciding on how best to update the AQOs and take forward the proposed improvement measures. We aim to complete the consultation report in the first half of this year.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB073

Question Serial No.

0189

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please provide specific details of the work plans and resources required to continue exploring ways to encourage the use of cleaner vehicles, fuels and technologies that can help to reduce air pollution.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

We have been monitoring closely the development of cleaner vehicles, fuels and technologies that can help reduce air pollution. When there are practicable options, we will explore ways to encourage their use. These are on-going work undertaken by the existing resources of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD).

In connection with encouraging the use of cleaner vehicles or transport technologies, the Financial Secretary has put forward three proposals in his recent Budget Speech:

- (a) to set up a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund for application by the industry, initially by the public transport operators, to encourage the industry to introduce more innovative green technologies, such as the use of buses, public light buses, taxis, and ferries that employ green technologies, and help nurture the budding of green technology in Hong Kong;
- (b) to accelerate the tax deduction for capital expenditure on environment-friendly vehicles (including electric vehicles, hybrid vehicles and other environment-friendly commercial vehicles) such that enterprises can enjoy a 100 per cent profits tax deduction in the first year under the proposal so as to encourage the business sector to purchase more of them; and
- (c) to set aside \$540 million to fund a subsidy scheme to encourage the early replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles.

EPD will help work out the implementation details of these proposals in the financial year 2010-2011.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
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INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB074

Question Serial No.

0190

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As the public is concerned about the effective treatment of a large amount of source-separated food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors, please advise when the engineering and environmental impact assessment studies for the first phase of the organic waste treatment facilities will be completed and the amount of resources involved.

If the said waste treatment facilities are proved effective, will the Administration consider allocating resources to extend the facilities for the treatment of food waste arising from the source separation of domestic waste?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The engineering and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies for the first phase of the organic waste treatment facilities (OWTF) at Siu Ho Wan, North Lantau have already been completed and the respective EIA report was approved in February 2010. The total cost for conducting these studies is \$13.6 million.

We would review the effectiveness of the first phase of the OWTF and would consider the need to extend the facilities to cover the food waste source separated from the domestic sector in the future.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB075

Question Serial No.

0191

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : (1) As regards the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme, the Financial Secretary stated in his budget speech that an incinerator employing the latest high temperature incineration technology to process sewage sludge generated from the project and others would be built in Tuen Mun. How many resources had been deployed to carry out local consultation before the site was decided on and whether the selected site was supported by local residents and the District Council?

(2) What are the details of the selected site for the above high temperature incineration technology facilities and the timeframe for the construction works?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

- (1) Public engagement and local consultation activities were conducted as part of the detailed engineering and environmental impact assessment (EIA) studies for the Sludge Treatment Facilities (STF) in Tuen Mun, of which the estimated cost is \$14 million in money-of-the-day prices. A continuous public engagement process with the Tuen Mun District Council (TMDC) and the local community was adopted throughout the EIA study. From 2007 to 2008, we have consulted the TMDC and its relevant committees as well as all five Tuen Mun Area Committees. In addition, we have organized public roving exhibitions and arranged outreach programmes for schools in Tuen Mun. In response to TMDC's concern on the siting of too many perceptively unwelcomed facilities in Tuen Mun, the Environment Bureau had taken the lead to set up a working group with TMDC and representatives from relevant bureaux and departments to discuss proposals for improving Tuen Mun's image and development. Subsequently, the TMDC had expressed no objection for the project to proceed to seeking funding support from the Legislative Council in May 2009.
- (2) The STF will be located at the eastern side of the Tsang Tsui ash lagoon in Tuen Mun. Phase 1 of the STF with a capacity of 1 600 tonnes per day will be commissioned in 2013, while Phase 2 is planned to be commissioned in 2016.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2010

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB076

Question Serial No.

0192

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What is the timetable for deciding on the site for developing the large scale waste treatment facilities to achieve bulk reduction of Municipal Solid Waste and that for implementing the engineering and environmental impact assessment studies on the first phase of the facilities? How many resources will be involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

We have identified Tsang Tsui in Tuen Mun and Shek Kwu Chau to the south of Lantau Island as two potential sites for the development of the first phase of the Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF). A provision of \$20.5million has been reserved for conducting detailed engineering and environmental impact assessment studies on these two potential sites. Following the completion of the studies in the latter half of this year, we shall make a decision on the choice of site for the development of the IWMF.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2010

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INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB077

Question Serial No.

0193

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under the new nature conservation policy, a scoring system has been adopted for assessing the relative ecological importance of sites. What are the specific details and how many resources will be involved? It is also mentioned that 12 priority sites for enhanced conservation have been identified. Do these 12 sites belong to the already published ones or new projects?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The New Nature Conservation Policy was introduced in November 2004. This policy has an objective to enhance the conservation of ecologically important sites in private ownership. To achieve this policy objective, 12 Priority Sites for Enhanced Conservation have been identified in 2004 under a scoring system drawn up by an Expert Group with membership comprising key academics and other experts in ecology. The list of the 12 Priority Sites announced in 2004 is at **Annex**, and this is the only list so far.

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) regularly monitors the conditions of the 12 Priority Sites, and the Environmental Protection Department oversees AFCD's works. The resources for the monitoring works will be absorbed under Programme (2) "Nature Conservation and Country Parks" under Head 22 – AFCD.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2010

Site	Rank
Ramsar Site	1
Sha Lo Tung	2
Tai Ho	3
Fung Yuen	4
Luk Keng Marsh	4
Mui Tsz Lam and Mau Ping	6
Wu Kau Tang	7
Long Valley and Ho Sheung Heung	8
Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site	9
Cheung Sheung	10
Yung Shue O	10
Sham Chung	12

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INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB078

Question Serial No.

0194

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : How many conservation sites are involved in the implementation of pilot projects on management agreements with landowners? What are the specific details and the amount of provision involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

Two of the Priority Sites for Enhanced Conservation, namely Fung Yuen and Long Valley, have been under active conservation by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) under the management agreement (MA) pilot scheme since 2005. The projects have achieved promising results in enhancing the conservation value of the sites concerned. According to the surveys conducted by the NGOs that run the two MA projects, there has been an increase in the diversity of butterfly species in Fung Yuen, with butterfly species increased from 162 species in 2005 to over 200 species at present, which accounts for more than 80% of butterfly species recorded in Hong Kong. As for Long Valley, there has been an increase in the diversity of birds. The number of bird species increased from 202 species before the MA in 2005 to 230 species at present, which accounts for about 50% of the total number of bird species in Hong Kong.

The resources for overseeing the implementation of the MA pilot projects are absorbed under Programme (6) Nature Conservation of Head 44 – Environmental Protection Department. The operation of the two projects are funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund, which in December 2009 granted a total of \$9.6 million to support the continuation of the Fung Yuen and Long Valley projects for three and two years respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
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INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB079

Question Serial No.

0195

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As the implementation details of the pilot scheme for public-private partnership are being further examined, what are the work schedule and specific areas of examination? Are there any target joint projects? If yes, please give details of the subject matters and required resources. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The Government is committed to the work of nature conservation and has introduced the New Nature Conservation Policy (NNCP) to enhance the conservation of ecologically important sites in private ownership. In 2008, the Government completed the assessment of the applications received under the Public-Private partnership Pilot Scheme of the NNCP. Having consulted the Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE), the Sha Lo Tung (SLT) project was recommended to be taken forward.

We have informed the project proponent of SLT of the assessment results and the recommendations made by ACE on this project. The project proponent has since adjusted its development and conservation plans and will submit the revised plans, together with the environmental impact assessment report, to the Government in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance shortly.

Meanwhile, we would continue to liaise closely with the project proponent on its proposals on the conservation of the ecologically sensitive area.

The resources for overseeing the implementation of this project are absorbed under Programme (6) ("Nature Conservation") under Head 44-Environmental Protection Department.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB080

Question Serial No.

0266

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please list the average total disposal cost of each tonnage of municipal solid waste in 2009-10, including the cost of refuse transfer and the cost of landfill disposal.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

A breakdown of the average costs for transfer and disposal of waste at landfills in 2009-10 is given below :

	2009-10
	(\$/tonne)
Transfer	199
Disposal at landfills	145
Total cost per tonne	344

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB081

Question Serial No.

0267

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The indicators of this Programme show that the actual numbers of waste import/export permits issued in 2008 and 2009 were 3 and 7 respectively.

- (a) How many of these were import permits and how many were export permits?
(b) Please provide information of the waste that was exported for recycling in the following table:

Year	Amount (Tonne)	Destination	Estimated Value (HK\$)
2007			
2008			
2009			

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

- (a) All the 10 permits issued in 2008 and 2009 under the Waste Disposal Ordinance were related to waste export applications mostly from electronic industry for recovery of precious metals.
(b) The information of waste exported for recycling by permit under the Waste Disposal Ordinance in 2007, 2008 and 2009 is shown in the table.

Year	Amount (Tonne)	Destination	Estimated Value (HK\$)
2007	1 082	Italy; Japan; Thailand	38 million
2008	967	Italy; Thailand; Korea; Singapore	30 million
2009	1 353	Italy; Thailand; Korea	18 million

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 10 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB082

Question Serial No.

1309

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : It is mentioned in the Indicators of this Programme that the actual numbers of chemical waste collector licences issued in 2008 and 2009 are 21 and 32 respectively, and that the estimated number of licences issued in 2010 is 12. Please advise the reasons for the decreased number of licences.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

There are now 64 chemical waste collection licences in force and they are normally issued with a validity period of 5 years. The current cycle of licence renewals began in 2008 and reached its peak in mid 2009. In addition, there are about 5 new licence applications received each year. In 2008, Environmental Protection Department (EPD) issued a total of 21 licences for 6 new and 15 renewal applications. In 2009, EPD issued a total of 32 licences for 5 new and 27 renewal applications. Based on a forecast of about 5 new applications and 7 existing licences which are due for renewal, the target for chemical waste collection licences in 2010 will drop to about 12.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB083

Question Serial No.

1552

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please list the names of lessees in the EcoPark, their recycled products, amount of their investments, volume of their annual production and the number of their employees.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

All six lots in Phase I of EcoPark have been let out. The details of the tenants and recycling processes are summarized below:

Tenants	Recycled materials/ Products	Minimum capital investment ^[Note]	Minimum annual throughput ^[Note]
Hong Kong Hung Wai Wooden Board Company	Shredded wood chip	\$6 million	2 400 tonnes
Li Tong Group	Dismantled electronic components	\$6 million	1 200 tonnes
Champway Technology Ltd	Biodiesel	\$6 million	6 000 tonnes
Hong Kong Telford Envirotech Group Ltd	Plastic flakes, chips and pellets	\$2 million	4 000 tonnes
Shiu Wing Metal Ltd	Sorted and sheared scrap metals	\$8 million	40 000 tonnes
Cosmos Star Holdings Company Ltd	Dismantled battery components	\$2 million	120 tonnes

[Note] Minimum capital investment and throughput under the respective tenancy agreements .

In addition, two waste recycling centres, one for processing of waste plastics and one for waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), are being set up at Phase II of the EcoPark with a view to providing secured outlets for these recyclables with relatively limited market demand. The two centres will be run by non-profit making organisations for three years with a subsidy of \$10 million each from the Environment and Conservation Fund. The plastic recycling centre will process about 20 tonnes per day of locally collected waste plastics and the WEEE recycling centre will process about 200 tonnes per year of WEEE. The processed materials will be sold to the recycling market and some refurbished WEEE will be donated to the needy. The waste plastics recycling centre started operation in March 2010 while the WEEE recycling centre is expected to commence operation in mid 2010.

It is estimated that there would be over 200 jobs created upon full commissioning of the above recycling operation.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
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INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB084

Question Serial No.

1563

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the one-off grant to encourage early replacement of Pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard, how much money was granted in 2009-10? How many vehicles were involved? Of the one-off grant of \$3.2 billion, what is the balance yet to be granted?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

As at end February 2010, \$141 million was approved under the one-off grant scheme in 2009-10, involving 2 978 vehicles. The balance of the commitment would be about \$2.57 billion.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB085

Question Serial No.

1564

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please advise on the details of Hong Kong's proper strategies on the adaptation and mitigation measures as recommended in the study on climate change.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department commissioned "A Study of Climate Change in Hong Kong" in March 2008, and it is close to completion. The consultants have initially identified the key areas of vulnerability in Hong Kong. The preliminary consultancy findings suggest that Hong Kong possesses significant adaptive capacity and has many systems in place which could be used to adapt to the physical impacts of climate change. It is however likely that some of the policies and facilities may need to be up-scaled. In respect of mitigation, initial modeling results indicate that a low carbon strategy comprising the following measures should be adopted:-

- (a) acceleration of the shift from coal to gas in power generation so as to reduce carbon emissions. This will require additional gas supply and the phasing out of coal plants;
- (b) increasing the proportion of non-fossil fuel, e.g. renewable and/or nuclear, in our fuel mix;
- (c) better utilization of landfill gas as an energy source and building of waste-to-energy facilities, e.g. Integrated Waste Management Facilities;
- (d) replacement of petrol vehicles by electric vehicles by a substantial number;
- (e) wider adoption of biofuels as motor fuels; and
- (f) redoubling of our effort in enhancing energy efficiency.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB086

Question Serial No.

1565

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (4) Water

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please advise the latest progress of and the expenditure involved for the statutory process to rezone a piece of land on Stonecutters Island for use by an underground biological sewage treatment works as part of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 2B.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

In September 2009, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) submitted an application under the Town Planning Ordinance for amendments to an approved Stonecutters Island Outline Zoning Plan to facilitate rezoning of land for the development of a proposed underground biological treatment plant under Stage 2B of Harbour Area Treatment Scheme. The Metro Planning Committee of the Town Planning Board agreed to EPD's proposal at its meeting on 18 December 2009, subject to certain adjustments, we are proceeding with the rezoning process under the Town Planning Ordinance. The estimated expenditure in 2010-11 for hiring consultants' services is \$80,000.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB087

Question Serial No.

1566

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (5) Environmental assessment and planning

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As regards the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), did the Administration study the EIA mechanisms of other countries in 2009-10? If yes, what are the details of the studies?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

As part of the routine work and activities, Environmental Protection Department's staff had kept abreast of overseas developments in various environmental areas including EIA through conferences, journals and Internet.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG** _____

Post Title _____ **Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection** _____

Date _____ **15 March 2010** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB088

Question Serial No.

2509

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the consultation under all Programmes for the purposes of formulating and assessing policies, please provide the relevant information in the following format:

For items that have been allocated funds for consultation in 2009-10, please provide the relevant information in the following format:

Name/Content of Consultation	Revised Estimate (\$)	Progress of Consultation (under planning/in progress/completed)	Mode of Consultation (e.g. collection of written views, consultation meeting, focus group), number of consultation, names of group consulted, number of persons consulted	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the consultation findings and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been released to the public? If yes, through which channels? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

Please refer to the attachment.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG** _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 15 March 2010 _____

Items that have been allocated funds for consultation in 2009-10:

Name/ Content of Consultation	Revised Estimate (\$)	Progress of Consultation (under planning/in progress/completed)	Mode of Consultation (e.g. collection of written views, consultation meeting, focus group), number of consultation, names of group consulted, number of persons consulted	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the consultation findings and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been released to the public? If yes, through which channels? If no, what are the reasons?
Public Consultation on Review of Air Quality Objectives	1,490,000	Completed	The Administration conducted a four-month public consultation from July to November 2009 and received 2 175 written submissions from the public. We also conducted 68 meetings with the key stakeholders and two telephone surveys to gauge the views of the community.	The Administration will report the consultation findings to the Legislative Council in due course.	The Administration is consolidating the views collected.
First Stage Public Engagement for the Review and Development of Marine Water Quality Objectives	450,000	Completed	The mode of consultation includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - collection of written views; - one public forum (attended by 109 participants); - nine consultation sessions with various advisory or consultative bodies; and - six focus group meetings for (i) fisheries and aquaculture industries; (ii) marine conservation organisations and recreational groups; and (iii) academics and public health professionals (attended by 119 participants in total). 	The Consultant will take into account the views received in the review and development of marine water quality objectives.	The comments and views received will be uploaded to a dedicated website for viewing by the general public.

Name/ Content of Consultation	Revised Estimate (\$)	Progress of Consultation (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Mode of Consultation (e.g. collection of written views, consultation meeting, focus group), number of consultation, names of group consulted, number of persons consulted	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the consultation findings and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been released to the public? If yes, through which channels? If no, what are the reasons?
A New Producer Responsibility Scheme for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)	1,572,960	In progress	We have issued a public consultation document for collecting written views by post, fax, email, or via the Internet. We are also in the process of conducting two opinion surveys and 35 items of briefing sessions, panel discussions, seminars and public forums. The list of parties that have been or will be consulted is at Annex.	The Administration will collate the feedback and take the comments received in assessing the way forward	Not applicable (not yet completed)

Parties Consulted/To be consulted on PRS for WEEE

Relevant trade associations and establishments

- HK WEEE Alliance
- The Hong Kong Electronic Industries Association
- Hong Kong & Kowloon Electrical Appliances Merchants Association Ltd
- Radio Association of Hong Kong
- Hong Kong Suppliers Association Ltd
- Hong Kong Retail Management Association
- Hong Kong Electrical Appliances Manufacturers Association
- Hong Kong Green Manufacturing Alliance
- Hong Kong Electronic and Technologies Association
- Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
- The Federation of Hong Kong Industries
- The Chamber of Hong Kong Computer Industry
- Internet Professional Association
- Hong Kong Recycle Materials & Re-production Business General Association Limited
- Federation of Hong Kong Recycle
- Hong Kong WEEE Recycling Association
- Hong Kong General Association of Recycling Business
- Environmental Contractors Management Association
- Hong Kong Information Technology Federation Ltd.
- 14 individual retailers of WEEE
- 12 individual importers/distributors/brand agents of WEEE
- 6 individual second-hand dealers of WEEE
- 14 individual recyclers/dismantlers of WEEE
- 9 exporters of WEEE and logistics companies

Other parties

- Hong Kong Baptist University
- Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
- Hong Kong Waste Management Association
- Lion Rock Institute
- Advisory Council in the Environment
- Council for Sustainable Development
- Environment Campaign Committee
- Environment and Conservation Fund Committee
- Energy Advisory Committee
- Green Groups Liaison Committee
- Trade Practices Committee of the Consumer Council
- Retail Task Force, Business Facilitation Advisory Committee
- British Chamber's Environment Committee
- Kwai Tsing District Council
- Tuen Mun District Council
- Kwun Tong District Council
- Wong Tai Sin District Council
- Tai Po District Council
- Sha Tin District Office
- Eastern District Council
- Wanchai District Council
- 18 District Council Chairmen
- Hong Kong Association of Property Management Companies
- Tai Po Environment Association
- Friends of the Earth (HK)
- Greeners Action
- Green Council
- Caritas Hong Kong
- St. James' Settlement

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB089

Question Serial No.

2510

Head : 44 Environmental
 Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Are there any resources reserved for consultation for the purposes of formulating and assessing policies in 2010-11? If yes, please provide information as follows:

Name /Content of Consultation	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of Consultation (under planning / in progress / completed)	Mode of Consultation (e.g. collection of written views, consultation meeting, focus group), number of consultation, names of group consulted, number of persons consulted	Will the findings of consultations be released to the public if they are expected to be completed in this financial year i.e. 2010-11? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

Please refer to the attachment.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
 Director of Environmental Protection

Date 15 March 2010

Items that have reserved funds for consultation in 2010-11:

Name/ Content of Consultation	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of Consultation (under planning / in progress / completed)	Mode of Consultation (e.g. collection of written views, consultation meeting, focus group), number of consultation, names of group consulted, number of persons consulted	Will the findings of consultations be released to the public if they are expected to be completed in this financial year i.e. 2010-11? If no, what are the reasons?
A New Producer Responsibility Scheme for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)	1,367,300	In progress (continued from 2009-10)	We have issued a public consultation document for collecting written views by post, fax, email, or via the Internet. We are also in the process of conducting two opinion surveys and 35 items of briefing sessions, panel discussions, seminars and public fora. The list of parties that have been or will be consulted is at Annex.	When completed, the key findings will be reported to the Legislative Council and the Advisory Council on the Environment.
Second Stage Public Engagement for the Review and Development of Marine Water Quality Objectives	450,000	Under planning	The general public and stakeholders would be invited to provide written submissions and attend consultation sessions.	N.A. (The consultation is scheduled for completion by 2011-12.)

Parties Consulted/To be consulted on PRS for WEEE

Relevant trade associations and establishments

- HK WEEE Alliance
- The Hong Kong Electronic Industries Association
- Hong Kong & Kowloon Electrical Appliances Merchants Association Ltd
- Radio Association of Hong Kong
- Hong Kong Suppliers Association Ltd
- Hong Kong Retail Management Association
- Hong Kong Electrical Appliances Manufacturers Association
- Hong Kong Green Manufacturing Alliance
- Hong Kong Electronic and Technologies Association
- Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
- The Federation of Hong Kong Industries
- The Chamber of Hong Kong Computer Industry
- Internet Professional Association
- Hong Kong Recycle Materials & Re-production Business General Association Limited
- Federation of Hong Kong Recycle
- Hong Kong WEEE Recycling Association
- Hong Kong General Association of Recycling Business
- Environmental Contractors Management Association
- Hong Kong Information Technology Federation Ltd.
- 14 individual retailers of WEEE
- 12 individual importers/distributors/brand agents of WEEE
- 6 individual second-hand dealers of WEEE
- 14 individual recyclers/dismantlers of WEEE
- 9 exporters of WEEE and logistics companies

Other parties

- Hong Kong Baptist University
- Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
- Hong Kong Waste Management Association
- Lion Rock Institute
- Advisory Council in the Environment
- Council for Sustainable Development
- Environment Campaign Committee
- Environment and Conservation Fund Committee
- Energy Advisory Committee
- Green Groups Liaison Committee
- Trade Practices Committee of the Consumer Council
- Retail Task Force, Business Facilitation Advisory Committee
- British Chamber's Environment Committee
- Kwai Tsing District Council
- Tuen Mun District Council
- Kwun Tong District Council
- Wong Tai Sin District Council
- Tai Po District Council
- Sha Tin District Office
- Eastern District Council
- Wanchai District Council
- 18 District Council Chairmen
- Hong Kong Association of Property Management Companies
- Tai Po Environment Association
- Friends of the Earth (HK)
- Greeners Action
- Green Council
- Caritas Hong Kong
- St. James' Settlement

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB090

Question Serial No.

0900

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In 2010-11, the Department will create 9 posts, of which 6 will be under Waste and 3 will be under Air. What are the main duties of these posts?

Asked by : Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply :

In 2010-11, there will be creation of 9 non-directorate posts under Head 44—Environmental Protection Department. The details are as follows –

Programme Area: Waste

Post title	No. of post	Main duties
(a) Environmental Protection Officer (EPO)	4	(i) supervision of the design and construction of the project 5233DS "Sludge Treatment Facilities" (1 SEPI, 1 EPI);
(b) Senior Environmental Protection Inspector (SEPI)	1	(ii) landfill management (1 EPO);
(c) Environmental Protection Inspector (EPI)	1	(iii) development of landfill extensions and refuse transfer station follow-on contracts (2 EPOs); and (iv) source separation of waste programme (1 EPO)

Programme Area: Air

Post title	No. of post	Main duties
(a) Environmental Protection Officer	2	(i) ban of idling vehicles with running engines to improve roadside air quality (1 EPO, 1 EPI) (time-limited for two years from 2010-11 to 2011-12); and
(b) Environmental Protection Inspector	1	(ii) control of Volatile Organic Compounds (1 EPO)

Total: 9

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB091

Question Serial No.

0901

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The revised estimate for the programme on waste for 2009-10 is significantly lower than the original estimate by \$132.8 million or 8.8%. Please give the reasons for this revision. As for the causes of decrease of \$9.2 million under the provision for 2010-11 in programme (1), what are the specific details of the 'reduced contract payments for the operation of waste facilities'?

Asked by : Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply :

- (a) The revised estimate for 2009-10 is lower than the original estimate by \$132.8 million or 8.8% because of reduced contract payments for the operation of the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre (CWTC), refuse transfer stations (RTSs) and strategic landfills with details provided below :
- (i) The contract payments for CWTC were reduced due to the commencement of the follow-on contract with lower unit rates in December 2009.
 - (ii) The West Kowloon Transfer Station was temporarily closed from April to August 2009 due to a fire incident. The total contract payments for the operation of RTSs were therefore reduced in 2009-10.
 - (iii) The total contract payments for the three strategic landfills were also reduced due to the lower-than-expected price fluctuation indices in 2009-10.
- (b) For 2010-11, the reduced contract payments for the operation of waste facilities are mainly due to the full year effect of the lower contract payments under the follow-on contract of the CWTC which is partly offset by an expected increase in price fluctuation indices applicable to contract payments for waste facilities.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG** _____

Post Title _____ **Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection** _____

Date _____ **10 March 2010** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB092

Question Serial No.

0902

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In paragraph (4), it is mentioned that the Department "has identified two potential sites that can be considered for developing large scale waste treatment facilities." Where are these two sites situated? What large scale waste treatment facilities are contemplated? Is funding required for these facilities? If yes, is the required funding earmarked in this financial year (i.e. 2010-11)?

Asked by : Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply :

We have identified Tsang Tsui in Tuen Mun and Shek Kwu Chau to the south of Lantau Island as two potential sites for the development of the first phase of the Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF). Currently, we are conducting detailed engineering and environmental impact assessment studies on these two potential sites. We shall make a decision on the choice of site after the studies are completed in the second half of 2010.

The proposed IWMF will adopt advanced incineration as its core technology which can substantially reduce the volume of municipal solid waste before final disposal.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB093

Question Serial No.

0903

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In regard to the treatment of solid waste, the actual amount of solid waste processed in 2009-10 slightly decreased by 1.58% or 78 000 tonnes as compared with 2008-09. Please advise the differences in the amount of solid waste collected for recycling through various channels in 2009-10 in comparison to 2008-09. Has the Environmental Protection Department conducted any statistical analysis on the type of waste with largest percentage and growth among the solid waste disposed of at the landfills? Are the quantities of those three types of waste collected through the 3-coloured recycling bins being disposed of at the landfills showing a downward trend?

Asked by : Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply :

The total quantity of materials recovered from municipal solid waste for recycling in 2009 is about 3.18 million tonnes (preliminary estimate), which is 0.04 million tonnes more than that in 2008.

Putrescible waste (mainly food waste) is the largest portion of solid waste disposed of at landfills in 2009, accounting for about 41% of all municipal solid waste landfilled. In terms of quantity, putrescible waste also shows the highest growth rate of about 7% when compared to 2008.

In recent years, there has been a downward trend in the landfill disposal quantities of the three types of materials collected for recycling through the 3-coloured bins, namely metals, paper and plastics. Their landfill disposal quantities in 2009 have dropped by about 29%, 15% and 2% respectively when compared to 2005.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB094

Question Serial No.

0904

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Since the implementation of the plastic shopping bag levy on 1 July 2009, how many plastic shopping bags have been distributed? How much levy has been collected? What percentage does the number of plastic shopping bags reduced account for the Department's original estimate? Does the reduction meet the Department's expectation? Meanwhile, has the number of plastic shopping bags disposed of at landfills been reduced?

Asked by : Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply :

With reference to the quarterly returns submitted to the Government by registered retailers, the projected full-year figure for 2010-11 of plastic shopping bags distributed by prescribed retailers is some 52 million, with a levy income of about \$26 million. This may be translated to some 90% reduction in the number of plastic shopping bags being issued by prescribed retailers based on a 2009 pre-levy survey. This scale of reduction is higher than the estimation we made in 2008.

We conducted in end 2009 a landfill survey to ascertain the number of plastic shopping bags disposed of at landfills after the implementation of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags. Data analysis is currently underway but we expect the number of plastic shopping bags disposed of at landfills would be smaller than the pre-levy figure.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB095

Question Serial No.

0905

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the item to "support the waste plastics and waste electrical and electronic equipment recycling centres funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund and operated by non-profit making organisations at the EcoPark" under "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11", what are the specific details of this item of work, the resources to be allocated during the year (i.e. 2010-11), the number of organizations to be funded and the volume of waste to be handled, and what would be done with the waste treated.

Asked by : Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply :

The waste plastics and waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) recycling centres are being set up at the EcoPark with a view to providing secured outlets for these recyclables with relatively limited market demand. The two centres will be run by two non-profit making organisations for three years with a maximum subsidy of \$10 million each from the Environment and Conservation Fund. The plastic recycling centre will process about 20 tonnes per day of locally collected waste plastics and the WEEE recycling centre will process about 200 tonnes per year of WEEE. The processed materials will be sold to the recycling market and some refurbished WEEE will be donated to the needy. The waste plastics recycling centre started operation in March 2010 while the WEEE recycling centre is expected to commence operation in mid 2010.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB096

Question Serial No.

2093

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In his Budget Speech (para. 93), the Financial Secretary mentioned that “to continue to accelerate the phasing out of old diesel commercial vehicles, I will provide a 36-month subsidy scheme for the replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles. The scheme will involve expenditure of about \$540 million.” Will the Administration inform this Committee whether it has reviewed the grant scheme to subsidise the replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles launched in 2007? If yes, what is the outcome? Has the Administration drawn any experience from the scheme to improve the new scheme of implementation of subsidised replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles? What response does the Administration expect from vehicle owners? What is the estimated number of applications for replacement of vehicles in the first year?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

We had reviewed the effectiveness of the grant scheme for encouraging the early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles and reported the review findings to the Subcommittee on Improving Air Quality of the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs at its meeting on 10 March 2010. In gist, given that the incentive scheme has only attracted around 24% of the eligible vehicle owners to replace their vehicles and that some 23 000 pre-Euro and 15 100 Euro I commercial diesel vehicles are still being licensed as at end 2009, we consider that other measures, such as introducing disincentive on the use of aged polluting commercial vehicles, should be explored.

Subject to the approval of the Finance Committee for the funding provision for the one-off grant for Euro II diesel commercial vehicles, we would encourage all eligible owners to take advantage of the grant to replace early their Euro II diesel commercial vehicles. For budgetary purposes and making reference to the response to the one-off grant for pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles, we have estimated that 7 500 Euro II vehicles (about 26% of the Euro II diesel commercial vehicle population) would participate in the scheme and about 1 700 applications would be received in the first year.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB097

Question Serial No.

0225

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under this Programme, the original estimate for 2009-10 is \$1,249.2 million but its revised estimate is \$469.4 million (a reduction of 62.4%). The financial provision for 2010-11 is \$458.0 million, a decrease of 2.4% as compared with the revised estimate for the previous year. Since 2009-10, the expenditure on Air has decreased for two years in a row. Following a significant reduction in the revised estimate for 2009-10, the financial provision for Air has decreased continuously in 2010-11. What are the reasons? Is it due to the suspended implementation/termination of some of the policies or measures?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

The reduction in expenditure on the Air Programme in 2009-10 and 2010-11 is mainly caused by the revisions in the provision for the one-off grant scheme to expedite the replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles. In 2009-10, the lower than expected number of applications for the grant has led to a revision of the estimated expenditure from \$1,249.2 million to \$469.4 million. As the scheme will expire on 31 March 2010, the estimated expenditure of the Programme for 2010-11 will be further adjusted downwards.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB098

Question Serial No.

0227

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11" (paragraph 11), it is said that the Environmental Protection Department would continue to implement the technical support programme to promote the adoption of cleaner production technologies and practices by Hong Kong-owned factories in the Pearl River Delta (PRD) Region. Please provide the following information:

- (a) the amount of resources to be allocated by the Administration to the above programme;
- (b) the form of support to be provided to Hong Kong-owned factories under the programme; and
- (c) whether any objectives are developed to measure the effectiveness of the programme.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

In April 2008, we launched a five-year Cleaner Production Partnership Programme in conjunction with the Economic and Trade Commission of Guangdong Province to encourage and facilitate Hong Kong-owned factories operating in the PRD Region to adopt cleaner production technologies and practices, with a view to reducing emissions and enhancing energy efficiency.

- (a) The Administration has committed \$93 million to resource the five-year Programme. Based on cash flow requirement, some \$22 million has been set aside for 2010-2011 under the Programme.
- (b) The Cleaner Production Partnership Programme has been designed to provide technical support to Hong Kong-owned factories operating in the PRD region to reduce emissions and enhance energy efficiency through conducting awareness promotion activities such as seminars and workshops to share knowledge and experience; on-site improvement assessment to identify and analyse the problems faced by the participating factories and to propose practical improvement solutions for them; installation of equipment and/or modification of production processes by way of demonstration projects to demonstrate the effectiveness of such technology and practices; and providing third party verification service to help verify the effectiveness of improvement projects completed by the participating factories.
- (c) A Project Management Committee has been set up to oversee the implementation of the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme. We also submit progress reports to Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs annually. Overall, the Programme has been well received by factory operators. As at end February 2010, a total of 493 funding applications were approved under the Programme. Over 120 awareness promotion activities were organized attracting some 15 000 participants

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB099

Question Serial No.

1816

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the project to “complete the engineering and environmental impact assessment studies and decide on the site for developing the first phase of the large scale waste treatment facilities to achieve bulk reduction of Municipal Solid Waste, please provide the following information:

- (a) When would the environmental impact assessment study for the abovementioned project be completed?
- (b) The planned volume of waste to be treated at the facilities annually?
- (c) The number of jobs to be created for professionals, technicians and workers by this project; and
- (d) The anticipated dated of completion of the facilities.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

Regarding the project of the first phase of the Integrated Waste Management Facilities that aim to achieve bulk reduction of municipal solid waste:

- (a) The detailed engineering and environmental impact assessment studies is expected to be completed in the second half of 2010;
- (b) The facilities are expected to have a treatment capacity of about 1.1 million tonnes of waste per annum;
- (c) Our preliminary estimate is that the project would create some 100 jobs (15 professionals, 60 technicians and 25 workers) ; and
- (d) The project is expected to be commissioned in the mid 2010's.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB100

Question Serial No.

1817

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please provide the following information on “completing the engineering and environmental impact assessment studies for the first phase of the organic waste treatment facilities for the treatment of source-separated food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors”:

- (a) What are the locations of the said facilities?
- (b) What is the amount of food waste to be treated by the said facilities per year?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

The first phase of the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities is proposed to be located at Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau. It can treat about 73 000 tonnes of source-separated food waste each year.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG** _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 12 March 2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB101

Question Serial No.

2859

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : It is reported that illegal disposal of construction waste in Hong Kong has grown so rampant that roads in urban areas become regular dumping points. Will the Government advise the manpower and resources deployed to deal with the problem of illegal disposal of construction waste during the year (i.e. 2010-11)?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

In 2010, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to make best use of its existing resources to combat illegal deposition of waste, especially construction waste. The EPD will continue to work with other government departments in handling complaints, clearing deposited wastes, taking enforcement actions against illegal activities under Waste Disposal Ordinance, and updating the database containing information of the sites subject to complaints of illegal land filling or fly-tipping activities. Regular inter-departmental meetings will be convened to monitor the overall situations of illegal fly-tipping and land filling throughout the territory.

The Government has proposed legislative amendments to the Waste Disposal Ordinance to further enhance the effectiveness of enforcement against unauthorized depositing of construction and demolition materials on private land. The EPD is in the process of consulting the relevant stakeholders, including the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs, relevant district councils, Heung Yee Kuk, green groups, etc. Subject to the views received, the EPD will prepare the legislative amendments as appropriate.

As all these actions form part of the EPD's routine integrated enforcement practices that cover a wide range of enforcement activities against different aspects of environmental pollution, it is not possible to provide a breakdown of expense specifically on tackling illegal deposition of waste.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB102

Question Serial No.

2860

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : It was mentioned in paragraph 6 that Environmental Protection Department "will continue to implement the territory-wide source separation of waste programme". Please provide the following information of the said programme:

- (a) So far, how many housing estates have participated in the programme? What are their locations?
- (b) What is the expenditure of publicity for the programme?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

As at end 2009, the Environmental Protection Department has successfully enlisted 1 256 housing estates to join the territory-wide Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste. These housing estates are located throughout the territory, with 360 on Hong Kong Island, 374 in Kowloon and 522 in the New Territories.

The Administration will spend around \$11.8 million in 2010-11 to further promote the source separation of waste programme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB103

Question Serial No.

3171

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In Matters Requiring Special Attention under the programme, it is stated that the Administration will “oversee the implementation of the new nature conservation policy, in particular the pilot scheme for public-private partnership and management agreement projects”. Please advise:

- (a) the number, locations, and subject matters of “the pilot scheme for public-private partnership and management agreement projects” now and in the coming year; and whether projects on real property are involved in the scheme;
- (b) the ways in which the Administration monitors the measures’ effectiveness, and whether consideration will be given to include non-governmental organizations and green groups for joint monitoring. If not, what are the reasons?
- (c) the expenditure and manpower involved for “overseeing the implementation of the new nature conservation policy” in the coming year.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

(a) and (b)

Management Agreement Scheme

Two of the Priority Sites for Enhanced Conservation, namely Fung Yuen and Long Valley, have been under active conservation by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) under the management agreement (MA) pilot scheme since 2005. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) oversee the implementation of the MA projects that are run by the NGOs. We consider that the operation and monitoring of the MA scheme involve the joint efforts from the NGOs and the Government.

The two MA projects seek to enhance the ecological value of Fung Yuen and Long Valley, which cover around 15 hectares of private land. So far, the projects have achieved promising results in enhancing the conservation value of the sites concerned, which we measure by the increase in the diversity of species and habitats at the sites.

Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Pilot Scheme

Under the PPP Pilot Scheme, to better conserve the ecologically important sites in private ownership, development of an agreed scale would be allowed at the ecologically less sensitive portion of any of the 12 Priority Sites identified for enhanced conservation, provided that the project proponent undertakes to conserve and manage the rest of the site that is ecologically more sensitive on a long-term basis. In 2008, having consulted the Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE), the Sha Lo Tung (SLT) project was recommended to be taken forward. The SLT project proponent proposed to set up an Ecological Reserve for conserving the biodiversity at SLT, and develop a columbarium and related facilities at the ecologically less sensitive portion of SLT. The

Government and the ACE consider that the proposal will bring net gain for nature conservation purposes.

(c)

In 2010-11, the financial provision of \$6.1 million for Programme (6) "Nature Conservation" under Head 44 – EPD is to cover the relevant personal emoluments of 6 civil service posts and associated general departmental expenses of the EPD for formulating policies and overseeing the implementation of government programme on nature conservation. The expenditure and manpower involved for overseeing the implementation of the new nature conservation policy are absorbed under that programme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 18 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB104

Question Serial No.

3172

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : It is mentioned in "Matters Requiring Special Attention" of this Programme that Environmental Protection Department would "continue to implement the territory-wide source separation of waste programme". In this connection, would the Government advise:

- (a) The number of estates and buildings participating in the programme last year, and the volume of separated waste collected;
- (b) Whether the Administration would consider carrying out a food waste recycling pilot programme in the estates already participating in the above programme? If yes, please provide the details. If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) Would the Administration refer to overseas experience and examine the feasibility of implementing a mandatory source separation of waste programme?
- (d) The expenditure for source separation of waste in the coming year.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) As at end 2009, the Environmental Protection Department has successfully enlisted 1 256 housing estates to join the territory-wide Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste. Through implementing source separation and other waste reduction measures, there is a cumulative reduction of 14.5% of domestic waste disposed of at landfills since January 2005, and the recovery rate of domestic waste has increased from 16% in 2005 to around 35% (preliminary estimates) in 2009.
- (b) At present we do not have any plan to carry out a food waste recycling programme in housing estates. First and foremost, Hong Kong does not yet have any large scale food waste treatment facility to receive separated food waste. Furthermore, for recycling, the food waste has to be source separated from other waste first. Currently, domestic food waste is mixed with other municipal solid waste for collection and disposal. As the majority of households in Hong Kong are in multi-storey buildings, collection and storage of source separated food waste will most likely give rise to odour and hygiene problems particularly under hot and humid conditions. As such, we would aim at facilitating the treatment of food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors which could be more readily separated at source for collection. With more experience gained and further development of organic waste treatment facilities, we will consider the possibility of source separating domestic food waste for treatment in future.

- (c) As at end 2009, 1 256 housing estates, covering some 1.57 million households or 67% of the total population, have already joined the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste. We are seeking to achieve the target of 80% coverage by end 2010. In light of the substantial coverage of the Programme, we will closely monitor the results of the existing voluntary programme, and keep in view any need for introducing mandatory source separation scheme with reference to local constraints and overseas experience.
- (d) The Administration plans to spend around \$11.8 million in 2010-11 for further promotion of the Programme on Source Separation of Waste.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB105

Question Serial No.

0579

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the improvement of emissions from vehicles, please provide the following information:

- (a) The effectiveness of the co-ordinated inter-departmental efforts to reduce emissions from vehicles and the details of work to be taken in 2010-11 as well as the estimated expenditure so involved;
- (b) Whether the grant scheme for franchised bus companies to replace vehicles and the mandatory phasing out of high-emission vehicles will be taken as measures for improving emissions. If yes, what are the details and the estimated expenditure? If not, what are the reasons?
- (c) The details of developing biodiesel as motor vehicle fuel and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) Through concerted efforts of the relevant government bureaux and departments, we introduced liquefied petroleum gas vehicles for taxis and light buses, mandated pre-Euro diesel vehicles to be retrofitted with particulate removal devices, put in place an incentive scheme to expedite the replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles, rolled out incentive schemes for environment-friendly vehicles, stepped up enforcement against smoky vehicles, etc. These initiatives have been effective in bringing down emissions from vehicles and brought significant improvement in roadside air quality. As compared with 1999, the concentrations of sulphur dioxide, respirable suspended particulates and nitrogen oxides at the roadside were reduced by 48%, 33% and 31% respectively in 2009. The number of smoky vehicles has also been reduced by about 80%.

Further actions will also be taken in 2010-11 to introduce legislation to ban idling vehicles with running engines and to pursue the following proposals put forward by the Financial Secretary in his recent Budget Speech-

- (i) to set up a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund for application by the industry, initially by the public transport operators, to encourage the industry to introduce more innovative green technologies, such as the use of buses, public light buses, taxis, and ferries that employ green technologies, and help nurture the budding of green technology in Hong Kong;
- (ii) to accelerate the tax deduction for capital expenditure on environment-friendly vehicles (including electric vehicles, hybrid vehicles and other environment-friendly commercial vehicles) such that enterprises can enjoy a 100 percent profits tax deduction in the first year under the proposal so as to encourage the business sector to purchase more of them; and
- (iii) to set aside \$540 million to fund a one-off grant scheme to encourage the early replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles.

- (b) At present, franchised bus companies have already committed to using buses below 18 years old for their franchised bus services. We have been in discussion with franchised bus companies to explore ways to expedite the replacement of franchised buses. However, when considering using public money to subsidize the bus companies to accelerate their bus replacement programme, we have to carefully balance the effectiveness of reducing road side pollution on one hand and the cost-effectiveness of utilizing public money and the potential impact on bus fares on the other. We will continue to discuss with the bus companies to explore various options to reduce the emissions of their fleets, such as making use of the above Pilot Green Transport Fund to try out green transport technologies to reduce roadside pollution. We will also continue to seek collaboration with the franchised bus companies to explore possible opportunity to reduce bus emissions through bus route rationalisation and deploying more clean buses to serve the busy corridors.

We have no plan to mandate the phasing out of high-emission vehicles. Vehicle replacement can be a heavy financial burden to operators because of its substantial capital investment. If these vehicles are mandated to retire, those who cannot afford to replace their vehicles will be forced to go out of business.

- (c) The Air Pollution Control (Motor Vehicle Fuel) (Amendment) Regulation 2009, which stipulates a regulatory framework for motor vehicle biodiesel, was approved by the Legislative Council and will come into operation on 1 July 2010. The regulatory framework mainly includes a specification for the quality of motor vehicle diesel and a requirement for labels to be provided at the fuel dispensers or containers of motor vehicle biodiesel that has a biodiesel content in excess of 5%. We will deploy existing resources for the enforcement of the biodiesel specifications.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB106

Question Serial No.

0580

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As regards the Nature Conservation under the programme, please advise:

- (a) The present state of conservation of the first 10 priority sites identified for enhanced conservation, the progress of nature conservation measures implemented, and the expenditure incurred for the said sites in the past 2 years (i.e. 2008-09 and 2009-10);
- (b) The implementation progress of the pilot schemes for public-private partnership and management agreement projects; and
- (c) The actions to be taken and estimated expenditure involved against illegal destruction of sites identified for conservation in 2010-11.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) The 12 Priority Sites for Enhanced Conservation under the New Nature Conservation Policy (NNCP) are closely monitored by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and they are found to be generally in good conditions. The resources for the monitoring works were absorbed under Programme (2) "Nature Conservation and Country Parks" under Head 22 – AFCD.
- (b) Two of the Priority Sites for Enhanced Conservation, namely Fung Yuen and Long Valley, have been under active conservation by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) under the management agreement (MA) pilot scheme since 2005. The projects have achieved promising results in enhancing the conservation value of the sites concerned. According to the surveys conducted by the NGOs that run the two MA projects, there has been an increase in the diversity of butterfly species in Fung Yuen, with butterfly species increased from 162 species in 2005 to over 200 species at present, which accounts for more than 80% of butterfly species recorded in Hong Kong. As for Long Valley, there has been an increase in the diversity of birds. The number of bird species increased from 202 species before the MA in 2005 to 230 species at present, which accounts for about 50% of the total number of bird species in Hong Kong. The Environment and Conservation Fund has in December 2009 approved a total budget of around \$9.6 million to support the continuation of the Fung Yuen and Long Valley projects for three and two years respectively.

As for the Public-Private partnership Pilot Scheme introduced under the NNCP, having consulted the Advisory Council on the Environment in 2008, the Sha Lo Tung (SLT) project was recommended to be taken forward. The project proponent has since then adjusted its development and conservation plans and is expected to submit the revised plans, together with the environmental impact assessment report, to the Government in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance soon. Meanwhile, we would continue to liaise closely with the project proponent on its proposals on the conservation of the ecologically sensitive area.

- (c) The AFCD will continue to monitor all the Priority Sites for Enhanced Conservation and coordinate other relevant departments' actions to deal with the illegal activities held within the Priority Sites. The expenditure incurred by AFCD will be absorbed under Programme (2) ("Nature Conservation and Country Parks Programme") under Head 22 – AFCD. The EPD will oversee AFCD's works in this aspect and relevant resources will be absorbed under Programme (6) ("Nature Conservation") under Head 44 –EPD.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 15 March 2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB107

Question Serial No.

0952

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the source separation of waste programme, please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the details of and expenditure involved in the relevant publicity work over the past two years, i.e. 2008-09 and 2009-10, as well as the work plan and target for 2010-11; and
- (b) whether the effectiveness of the programme has been reviewed. If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) The Administration spent \$7.42 million and \$7.37 million in 2008-09 and 2009-10 respectively on the Source Separation of Waste Programme. We have organized a variety of publicity and promotional activities including media broadcasts, different types of advertisements, distribution of posters and banners at housing estates, holding exhibitions and award presentation ceremonies.

In 2010-11, we will further extend the Source Separation of Waste Programme to rural areas and we will also engage non-profit making organizations to further promote waste reduction and source separation of waste for recycling in villages and housing estates. We aim to cover 80% of all households by the end of 2010. As at end 2009, we have covered around 67% of the population.

- (b) Through implementing source separation and other waste reduction measures, there is a cumulative reduction of 14.5% of domestic waste disposed of at landfills since January 2005, and the recovery rate of domestic waste has increased from 16% in 2005 to around 35% (preliminary estimate) in 2009

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB108

Question Serial No.

0953

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Noise

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the promotion of good practices to prevent or minimise road traffic noise problems at the planning stage, please inform this Committee of the specific details, the expenditure involved and the expected completion date.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) actively promotes good practices to prevent or minimize road traffic noise problems by providing advice to private developers through the town planning process to incorporate appropriate measures into design of residential developments; and requiring project proponents of road projects that are governed by the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance to take appropriate measures under the Ordinance. This forms part of the routine work of EPD which is on-going process. There is also no separate account on the resources involved.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB109

Question Serial No.

0954

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (4) Water

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding initiating a review of the timing for implementation of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) Stage 2B, please advise this Committee of details of the review, the amount of expenditure involved and the expected completion time.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

The review of the implementation timetable of HATS Stage 2B will cover water quality trends, population growth, sewage flow build-up and other relevant issues. The review is expected to be completed by end 2011. The estimated expenditure in 2010-11 is \$1,200,000 for hiring consultants' services.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 11 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB110

Question Serial No.

0955

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (4) Water

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please advise this Committee of the progress and expenditure of the Pearl River Estuary Water Quality Management Planning Advance Study in 2009-10, and the work targets and estimated expenditure of the item in 2010-11.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

The Pearl River Estuary Water Quality Management Planning Advance Study (the Study) is carried out jointly by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the Department of Environmental Protection of Guangdong Province (GDEPD). In 2009, the EPD worked closely with the GDEPD in drawing up the scope of work, study methodology, implementation plan and programme for the Study.

The Study was endorsed by the Hong Kong-Guangdong Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection at its meeting on 7 December 2009. The Study commenced in February 2010.

The work targets in 2010-11 include the collation of water quality and hydrological information and the employment of specialist contractors to conduct field surveys in the Pearl River Estuary. The project expenditure for 2010-11 is estimated at \$ 2,534,000.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB111

Question Serial No.

0956

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title): 700
General non-recurrent

Subhead (No. & title) : (3) Noise

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the study to evaluate the adverse impact of environmental noise on public health in Hong Kong, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) What were the progress of study and the expenditure involved in the past year (i.e. 2009-10)?
- (b) What measures will the Administration take to minimise the adverse impact?

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) In the past year (2009-10), the consultant continued their study to evaluate the adverse impact of environmental noise on public health in Hong Kong. The area of work included a social survey on people's perception to environmental noise in Hong Kong; a review of literature on related health effects; and an evaluation of the possible related impacts and its extent. Expenditure involved was about HK\$900,000.
- (b) The study is scheduled to complete around early 2012. The Administration will consider the need of additional measures in view of the study findings.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB112

Question Serial No.

1053

Head : 44 Environmental Protection
Department

Subhead (No. & title): 700 General
non-recurrent (Item 566 review the
eligibility of road sections for
retrofitting barriers)

Programme : (3) Noise

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the review on the eligibility of road sections for retrofitting barriers, please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the progress of the review and the expenditures involved over the past year (i.e. 2009-10); and
- (b) the progress of the retrofitting works on the road sections eligible for retrofitting barriers and the expected completion date.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) In 2009-10, per requests of the public, district councilors and legislative councilors, the Environmental Protection Department reviewed the eligibility of retrofitting noise barriers for 16 road sections in conjunction with the Highways Department, Transport Department and Fire Services Department. Due to space limitation and other issues such as driving safety and fire fighting operation, it was found technically not feasible to retrofit noise barriers for these road sections. Expenditure involved in 2009-10 was about \$380,000.
- (b) On other retrofitting works, the progress in 2009-10 and their expected completion date are summarized in the table below.

Progress of noise barrier retrofitting works in 2009-10

Ref.	Road Section	Progress in 2009-10	Expected completion
1	Cheung Pei Shan Road	Substantially completed in end 2009	--
2	Tseung Kwan O Road (near Hing Tin Estate)		
3	Tseung Kwan O Road (near Tsui Ping (South) Estate)		
4	Yuen Shin Road (near Kwong Fuk Estate)	Substantially completed in early 2010	--
5	Tsing Tsuen Bridge (Tsuen Wan and Tsing Yi)	Construction continued	End 2010
6	Kwun Tong Bypass		
7	Tuen Mun Road (Tsuen Wan)		
8	Tuen Mun Road (Yau Kom Tau)		
9	Tuen Mun Road (Anglers' Beach)		
10	Tuen Mun Road (Sham Tseng)		End 2014

Ref.	Road Section	Progress in 2009-10	Expected completion
11	Tuen Mun Road (Tsing Lung Tau)	Construction continued	End 2014
12	Tuen Mun Road (Castle Peak Bay)	Construction commenced	End 2014
13	Fanling Highway (Po Shek Wu Road to MTR Fanling Station)		End 2012
14	Fanling Highway (MTR Fanling Station to Wo Hing Road)	Tender being prepared	Mid 2013

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB113

Question Serial No.

2780

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the development of air quality objectives (AQOs), standards and guidelines, please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the actions to be taken in 2010 for implementation of the above work and the expenditures involved in each action;
- (b) whether the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will consider conducting detailed medical studies for the development of AQOs, standards and guidelines that are beneficial to public health. If yes, what are the details? What are the manpower and expenditures involved?

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) We are now carefully examining the views collected during the public consultation on AQO Review, which ended in November 2009, for deciding on how best to update the AQOs and take forward the proposed improvement measures. The work related to the promulgation of the new AQOs will be absorbed by the existing provisions.
- (b) In the AQOs Review, extensive reference has been made to the World Health Organisation's air quality guidelines, which have been drawn up in the light of the findings of a wealth of air pollution-related health studies conducted internationally and are meant to provide an authoritative source of reference by countries to set their own AQOs. We consider the World Health Organisation's guidelines have already provided sound reference for the purpose of setting the AQOs.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 15 March 2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB114

Question Serial No.

0128

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the matters requiring special attention in 2010-11, the Environmental Protection Department will expand the green procurement list and develop green specifications for more products commonly used by government departments, and further devise green procurement guidelines for government departments in order to promote the green procurement policy in 2010-11, please advise:

- (a) What categories of products to be covered in respect of the development of green specifications.
- (b) Whether the green procurement guidelines to be devised will apply to all bureaux and departments and the expected time of implementation.
- (c) The expected changes in respect of the expenditure involved after the full implementation of the guidelines. What products will have the largest rate of increase and what are the departments so involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

- (a) Jointly with the Government Logistics Department (GLD), the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has already developed green specifications on 14 categories of products including building and construction supplies; cleaning materials; computer equipment and products; electrical appliances; gas appliances and light fittings; fuel oils and hydrocarbon lubricants; furniture; office equipment; paper for printing and photocopying; paper products other than for printing and photocopying; plastic and rubber products; printing and publishing equipment and supplies; stationery and office supplies; telecommunications equipment; and vehicles and spare parts. Meanwhile, we are developing green specifications for three other categories of products including household goods; shoes and boots; textile materials and garment.
- (b) From time to time, EPD provides green procurement guidelines to all government bureaux and departments. Since 2000, we have amended the Stores and Procurement Regulations to require all government bureaux and departments to give consideration, as far as possible and where economically rational, to purchase products that are more environmentally friendly. It is our standing policy that where products with the developed green specifications are available in the market and where economically rational, the Government would procure these green products.
- (c) In accordance with the said policy, bureaux and departments will procure products with developed green specifications where these products are available in the market and their prices are economically rational. In view of this policy, we do not anticipate significant changes in expenditures due to the procurement of products with developed green specifications.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Post Title _____

Date _____

ANISSA WONG

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB115

Question Serial No.

0391

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Environmental Protection Department has indicated that it would continue to explore ways to encourage the use of cleaner vehicles, fuels and technologies that can help to reduce air pollution during 2010-11. Please advise:

- (a) Has the Administration considered retrofitting pre-Euro and Euro I diesel vehicles (including buses) with up-to-date devices that can further reduce the emissions of suspended particulates and nitrogen oxides? Are such devices suitable for Hong Kong?
- (b) Has the Administration discussed with bus companies about introducing the latest technology to reduce emissions and pollutants from buses? If yes, what is the related technology? What is the expenditure involved? Will the Administration consider providing subsidies so as to accelerate the implementation of the scheme?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

- (a) Given the old design of their engines, it would be technically infeasible to retrofit pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with up-to-date devices such as diesel particulate filters or selective catalytic reduction devices to reduce their emissions of particulate matters and nitrogen oxides. As such, we have been encouraging vehicle owners to make use of the one-off grant for pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles to expedite replacement of such vehicles with new ones meeting the prevailing statutory emission standards.
- (b) Franchised bus companies are retrofitting their Euro II and III buses with diesel particulate filters to reduce their particulate emissions. We are in discussion with them about launching a trial of retrofitting their Euro II and III buses with selective catalytic reduction devices to reduce their nitrogen oxides emissions. As discussion with the franchised bus companies are on-going and details of the trial have yet to be worked out, we do not have a reliable estimate on the expenditure of the trial which will be funded by the Government. The Government will consider how best to take forward the retrofit of the trial is successful.

In addition, the Financial Secretary has proposed in his 2010-11 Budget Speech to set up a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund for application initially by public transport operators to try out green transport technologies to reduce vehicle emissions and help improve roadside air quality. Subject to the funding approval of the Finance Committee, we would encourage franchised bus companies to make use of the Fund to try out green technologies for buses.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB116

Question Serial No.

0392

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the Environmental Protection Department indicators on “smoky vehicle reports processed”, “smoky vehicles tested” and “enquiries/complaints on smoky vehicle matters handled”, the estimated numbers in 2010 are similar to the actual numbers in 2009. Please advise:

- (a) Why it is estimated that the number of cases concerned would not be reduced significantly?
- (b) Is there insufficient manpower to deal with the issues?
- (c) Will resources be deployed to combat smoky vehicles?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

Since 1999, the Government has stepped up its enforcement against smoky vehicles, including introducing an advanced smoke test, increasing the fixed penalty fine against excessive smoke emissions to \$1,000 and training more smoky vehicle spotters. These efforts have borne fruits. As compared with its peak in 2000, the number of smoky vehicles on the road has been reduced by 80% and has been maintained at such a low level in recent years. We will continue our efforts and devote sufficient resources to keep the smoky vehicle problem in check.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB117

Question Serial No.

0393

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title): 700
General non-recurrent (Item 981
Study of Major Industrial Air
Pollution Sources in the Pearl
River Delta Region - Feasibility
Study)

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : When will the 'Study of Major Industrial Air Pollution Sources in the Pearl River Delta Region - Feasibility Study' be completed? What are its initial findings thus far? On which aspect of the study will the balance of \$4,392,000 be spent primarily?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

The 'Study of Major Industrial Air Pollution Sources in the Pearl River Delta Region – Feasibility Study' will be completed in 2010. It has identified the major polluting industries in the Pearl River Delta Region, characterized these air emission sources and collected their emission data. The remaining work includes analyzing the collected data, updating the emission factors and profiles for the identified emission sources, and looking into possible options that may help reduce the emissions of these major polluting industries. They will account for the balance of \$4,392,000.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB118

Question Serial No.

1492

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Environmental Protection Department estimated that “the number of days with air pollution index (API) not exceeding 100” in 2010 is 280 while there were 272 such days in 2008 and 256 days in 2009. Please advise:

- (a) What are the reasons for the condition in 2010 expected to improve if compared with 2009?
- (b) What are the reasons for 85 days expected still to be with “API exceeding 100”?
- (c) What are the measures for reducing the number of high pollution days?
- (d) What are the expenditures involved in implementation of the above measures?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey .

Reply :

(a) and (b)

Both the quantity of air pollutant emissions and weather conditions can affect the API level. Owing to the difficulty in predicting the weather conditions in any future years, we cannot predict for 2010 in any precise terms the number of days with API not exceeding 100. As compared with 2008, 2009 had higher solar radiation level and less rainfall. The weather conditions were in general more conducive to the formation of ozone, which aggravated the oxidation of nitrogen monoxide emitted from motor vehicles to nitrogen dioxide, resulting in more incidents of roadside API exceeding 100 in the year. Hence, 2009 had fewer days with API not exceeding 100 than 2008. When predicting the number of days with API not exceeding 100 for 2010, we have assumed that the weather conditions would be closer to the norm. Based on the average number of such days over the past three years including 2009, which is 273, and in anticipation of the gradual improvement of air quality upon implementation of emission control measures, we have set a target of 280 days for 2010. The corresponding predicted number of days with API exceeding 100 is 85. As noted above, these predictions are merely broad-brush estimates.

(c) To improve air quality, we will pursue the following emission control measures in 2010. Such measures also help meet the emission reduction targets for the Pearl River Delta Region by 2010 agreed with the Guangdong Provincial Government:

- continue to impose emissions caps on the power stations;
- continue to implement existing measures and develop new ones to reduce vehicle emissions. The major initiatives include incentivizing the early replacement of old diesel commercial vehicles by new ones, encouraging the use of environment-friendly vehicles, tightening the specifications of motor diesel and unleaded petrol to Euro V standards, strengthening the emission control of in-use petrol and liquefied petroleum gas vehicles, put forward a Bill to ban idling vehicles with running engines, etc.;

- continue to regulate the contents of volatile organic compounds in architectural paints, printing inks and selected consumer products in phase; and
- develop a proposal to control emissions from off-road mobile sources and complete a trial of local ferries using ultra low sulphur diesel.

(d) The measures mentioned above are part and parcel of Programme (2) Air. Resources required for 2010-11 will be covered by provision under the programme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB119

Question Serial No.

0773

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Administration plans to encourage the use of ultra low sulphur diesel by local ferries and is conducting a trial on the feasibility of local ferries using ultra low sulphur diesel. In this regard, please advise the progress and various items of expenditure of the trial and the ancillary facilities and time table for promoting the use of ultra low sulphur diesel by ferries. What measures are in place to encourage the use of ultra low sulphur diesel by local ferries?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

We launched in end-August 2009 a nine-month trial involving five local ferries to use ultra low sulphur diesel (ULSD). As part of the trial arrangement, we have engaged a barge at Cheung Sha Wan to provide ULSD refilling service for the participating ferries. The Government would pay for the price premium of ULSD over that of marine light diesel, plus the fees for testing lubrication oil samples taken from the engines of the five ferries. The total expenditure of the whole trial would amount to about HK\$3.4 million.

The initial trial findings show that local ferries can be fuelled by ULSD. When the trial completes around mid-2010, we will analyze the trial findings and map out the way forward for promoting local ferries to use ULSD.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB120

Question Serial No.

0774

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Diesel taxis and public light buses are being replaced by liquefied petroleum gas vehicles to improve air quality. However, the Environmental Protection Department will strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and liquefied petroleum gas vehicles, and plan to use roadside remote sensing equipment and dynamometers for emission testing in 2010-11. Please give details of the plan, advise whether penalties will be determined according to the extent of exceedance, and provide the estimated expenditure of the plan.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

If not properly maintained, petrol and liquefied petroleum gas vehicles will also emit excessive emissions of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbons. To improve roadside air quality, we are working on a proposal to strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and liquefied petroleum gas vehicles, including the use of roadside remote sensing equipment and dynamometers for emission testing. The proposal will cover the procedures and concentration limits of the dynamometer emission test, the remedial actions of the owners of vehicles caught emitting excessively and measures to assist vehicle owners and the vehicle repair trade to comply with this new control initiative. We intend to consult the stakeholders in 2010-11 on the proposal. Subject to the outcome of the consultation, we will finalize the implementation details and estimate the required expenditure. The development of the proposal is being absorbed by the existing provision. Any additional resource requirement for implementing the proposal, if required, will be sought through the normal mechanism.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB121

Question Serial No.

1125

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Administration will examine possible options for municipal solid waste charging in 2010-11. What are the details and time table of the study as well as the breakdown of expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

A trial scheme to examine the logistical arrangements for waste recovery and disposal in different domestic housing settings was completed in the first quarter of 2007. Furthermore, a baseline study to collect information on waste generation pattern and waste management practices among different types of commercial and industrial establishments is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2010. The expenditure for this baseline study is \$1.25 million which will be expended before the end of the 2009-10 financial year. No expenditure will be incurred in 2010-11. The information collected from the trial scheme and the baseline study would facilitate the development of possible municipal solid waste charging options.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB122

Question Serial No.

1126

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding this Programme, please advise:

- (a) The reasons for the difference of more than 5% as the performance indicator of “the number of days with air pollution index (API) not exceeding 100” decreased from 272 days for 2008 to 256 days for 2009;
- (b) The measures and the breakdown of expenditures in respect of the Administration’s plans to enhance “the number of days with API not exceeding 100” for 2010 to 280 days;
- (c) Whether the Administration has set a time schedule to meet the target of “the number of days with API not exceeding 100” for the whole year. If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

- (a) As compared with 2008, 2009 had higher solar radiation level and less rainfall. The weather conditions were in general more conducive to the formation of ozone, which aggravated the oxidation of nitrogen monoxide emitted from motor vehicles to nitrogen dioxide, resulting in more incidents of the roadside API exceeding 100. Hence, 2009 had fewer days with API not exceeding 100 than 2008.
- (b) When estimating the target number of days with API not exceeding 100 for 2010, we have assumed that the weather conditions in the year will be closer to the norm. Based on the average number of such days over the past three years including 2009, which is 273, and in anticipation of air quality improvement upon implementation of emission control measures, we have set a target of 280 days for 2010, which is merely a broad-brush estimate.

In 2010, we will pursue the following air quality improvement measures, which also help meet the emission reduction targets for the Pearl River Delta (PRD) Region by 2010 agreed with the Guangdong Provincial Government:

- continue to impose emissions caps on the power stations;
- continue to implement existing measures and develop new ones to reduce vehicle emissions. The major initiatives include incentivizing the early replacement of old diesel commercial vehicles by new ones, encouraging the use of environment-friendly vehicles, tightening the specifications of motor diesel and unleaded petrol to Euro V standards, strengthening the emission control of in-use petrol and liquefied petroleum gas vehicles, put forward a Bill to ban idling vehicles with running engines, etc.;

- continue to regulate the contents of volatile organic compounds in architectural paints, printing inks and selected consumer products in phase; and
- develop a proposal to control emissions from off-road mobile sources and complete a trial of local ferries using ultra low sulphur diesel.

The measures are part and parcel of Programme (2) Air. Resources required for 2010-11 will be covered by provision under the Programme.

- (c) It is our goal to achieve an API reading of below 100 for the entire year. To this end, we are working with the Guangdong Provincial Government on a plan to further reduce the emissions in the whole PRD Region after 2010. On the local front, we are mapping out the way forward for updating the Hong Kong Air Quality Objectives (AQO) in light of the feedback of the public consultation and introducing a long term air quality management strategy comprising a package of emission reduction measures to achieve the new AQOs.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB123

Question Serial No.

2692

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The revised expenditure of \$469.4 million for 2009-10 has decreased by 62.4% on the original estimate of \$1,249.2 million. What are the reasons for the drastic revision? Please give a breakdown of the items with a reduction in expenditures.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

In 2009-10, we have revised the estimate of the expenditure from \$1,249.2 million to \$469.4 million mainly due to a lower than expected number of applications for the one-off grant for encouraging the early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles under Subhead 700, Item 884.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB124

Question Serial No.

0251

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the matters to continue to explore ways to encourage the use of cleaner vehicles, fuels and technologies that can help to reduce air pollution, has the Administration earmarked resources to explore the feasibility of introducing a trolleybus system in Kowloon Peninsula in order to fully achieve the objective of zero emissions from public vehicles? If yes, what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

The Transport Department conducted a study on the feasibility of introducing trolleybus system in Hong Kong in 2001. The study concluded that due to the fare implication and various technical and operational risks, the introduction of trolleybuses in built-up area in the territory was not supported. So far, there have not been further studies to explore the feasibility of introducing trolleybus system in the Kowloon Peninsula.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB125

Question Serial No.

0454

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What was the expenditure incurred for treatment of waste electrical and electronic equipment in 2009-10? How many officers were assigned to handle this job?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

The expenditure incurred for treatment of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) in 2009-10 was \$16.6 million. This includes promotional programmes on WEEE recycling, the operation cost of the Kowloon Bay Waste recycling centre, and the setting up of a new WEEE recycling centre at the EcoPark. Six officers were involved in the WEEE programmes.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB126

Question Serial No.

0455

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Noise

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : On formulating environmental noise policy, has the Administration examined the control policy against noise emitted from large air-conditioners at industrial and commercial buildings? If yes, what is the establishment of the staff concerned in 2010-11? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

The Noise Control Ordinance provides for controlling noise from large air-conditioning and ventilating systems of industrial/commercial premises. We would continue to oversee the effectiveness of environmental noise policy, with a view to considering appropriate improvement when necessary. As these are our regular activities, we do not provide specific breakdown of resources in dealing with environmental noise from large air-conditioners.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

17 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB127

Question Serial No.

1857

Head : 44 Environmental Protection
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : For marine dumping and illegal deposit of waste, please advise:

- (a) details of all prosecutions and the penalties for these offences in 2009; and
- (b) the work plan and the estimated expenditure in 2010.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

- (a) In 2009, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) proceeded with a total of 39 prosecutions on illegal depositing of waste under the Waste Disposal Ordinance (WDO), Section 16(A). No prosecution under the Dumping at Sea Ordinance (DASO) was proceeded in 2009. The details are as follows :

Ordinance	No. of Prosecutions	No. of Convictions	Fine Range (HK\$)
DASO (Dredged Sediment)	0	0	-
WDO			
(i) Construction Waste related	33	31	800 - 7,000
(ii) Other Waste (e.g. packaging waste, furniture, rubbles, etc.)	6	5	2,000 - 3,000

In addition, the EPD issued 77 Fixed Penalty Notice under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness Offences) Ordinance, Cap. 570 for minor waste dumping offences.

- (b) In 2010, the EPD will continue to make best use of its existing resources to combat illegal deposition of waste, especially construction waste. The EPD will continue to work with other government departments in handling complaints, clearing deposited wastes, taking enforcement actions against illegal activities under WDO, and updating the database containing information of the sites subject to complaints of illegal landfilling or flytipping activities. Regular inter-departmental meetings will be convened to monitor the overall situations of illegal fly-tipping and land filling throughout the territory.

The Government has proposed legislative amendments to the WDO to further enhance the effectiveness of enforcement against unauthorized depositing of construction and demolition materials on private land. EPD is in the process of consulting the relevant stakeholders, including Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs, relevant district councils, Heung Yee Kuk, green groups, etc. Subject to the views received, EPD will prepare the legislative amendments as appropriate.

The EPD will continue to enforce the DASO through vigilant surveillance on land, by marine and aerial means; and the use of a real time tracking and monitoring system of dumping vessels by dedicated Global Positioning System installed on vessels.

As all these actions form part of the EPD's routine integrated enforcement practices that cover a wide range of enforcement activities against different aspects of environmental pollution, it is not possible to provide a breakdown of resources specifically on tackling illegal marine dumping or illegal deposition of waste.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB128

Question Serial No.

0549

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The provision for 2010-11 under Programme (6) is 33.7% lower than that the revised estimate for 2009-10 and reduced to the level of the 2009-10 original estimate. How will this affect the publicity programme of the Geopark?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew

Reply :

In 2009-10, the financial provision for Programme (6) under Head 44 – Environmental Protection Department (EPD) was revised mainly to take account of the need to allocate additional funds to prepare for the setting up of the Hong Kong National Geopark. For 2010–11, expenditure in relation to the Geopark management, including the holding of publicity and promotional programmes, would be solely borne by AFCD under its Programme (2) “Nature Conservation and Country Parks”. Hence, provision for 2010–11 under Programme (6) of EPD would return to the level of the 2009-10 original estimates.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB129

Question Serial No.

0550

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : According to the Indicators of Programme (1), the amount of waste received by refuse transfer stations in 2009 was 2% less than that in 2008. Though further measures including the environmental levy on plastic shopping bags implemented in July 2009 have been adopted by the Administration, the estimated amount to be received in 2010 is still 1% more than the amount received in 2009? Is it possible that the expenditure for waste treatment is being over-estimated, or is extra funding being reserved in anticipation that the relevant measures would not be effective?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew

Reply :

The reduction in the amount of waste received at refuse transfer stations in 2009 when compared to that in 2008 was partly due to the temporary shutdown of a refuse transfer station after a fire incident, which had led to the diversion of around 24 600 tonnes of waste directly to landfills for disposal. The quantity of waste received at refuse transfer stations in 2010 is estimated to be about the same level as in 2009. We have taken this into account when preparing the estimate for 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB130

Question Serial No.

0551

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Programme (2), the provision for 2010-11 is lower than 2009-10. This is mainly due to the decreased cash flow requirement for the one-off grant to encourage early replacement of old commercial vehicles with new ones. Among the provision of \$458 million for 2010-11, how many resources have been earmarked for the \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew

Reply :

The proposed \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund is a new initiative and is not covered by the provision of \$458 million for 2010-11. If the proposed Fund is supported by the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs, we will seek the approval of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council for the creation of commitment and necessary funding provision.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB131

Question Serial No.

3019

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In his Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary indicated that the Administration has continually promoted "green procurement" measures among government departments. Which bureaux and departments are included in the promotion work and what is the progress of measures? What are the expenditure and establishment involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply :

From time to time, Environmental Protection Department (EPD) provides green procurement guidelines to all government bureaux and departments. Since 2000, we have amended the Stores and Procurement Regulations to require all government bureaux and departments to give consideration, as far as possible and where economically rational, to purchase products that are more environmentally friendly. Up till now, the EPD has, jointly with the Government Logistics Department (GLD), already developed green specifications for 14 categories of products, and the details are already uploaded to EPD's website. Meanwhile, we are developing green specifications for 3 other categories of products.

It is our standing policy that where products with the developed green specifications are available in the market and where economically rational, the Government would procure these green products. In accordance with the said policy, bureaux and departments will procure products with developed green specifications where these products are available in the market and their prices are economically rational. In view of this policy, we do not anticipate significant changes in expenditures due to the procurement of products with developed green specifications.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB132

Question Serial No.

0492

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : For the one-off grant scheme to encourage early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard, please provide the following information:

- (a) What are the numbers of applications, successful applications and unsuccessful applications since the launch of the scheme? Please give a breakdown of the numbers of Euro vehicles categories, i.e. pre-Euro and Euro I vehicles and list the committed funding under each item.
- (b) What are the reasons for the amount of used grant being less than expected?
- (c) How will the huge balance be used effectively with the scheme extended for a year? Will the application eligibility be adjusted or will the amount of grant increase?
- (d) On the scheme to replace Euro II diesel commercial vehicles proposed in the budget, what measures will be implemented to fully utilise the grant to encourage more vehicles owners to apply for replacement of their old commercial vehicles with more environmental friendly models?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

- (a) As at end February 2010, we received 14 653 applications, of which 14 069 were approved, 75 rejected and 509 being processed. A breakdown of the approved applications is as follows:

Euro Vehicle Categories	Number of Vehicles Replaced	Committed Funding
Pre-Euro	9 533	\$333 million
Euro I	4 536	\$275 million

- (b) The total funding commitment of \$3.2 billion for the scheme has been made assuming replacement of all eligible vehicles. As participation in the one-off grant scheme is voluntary, some of the eligible vehicle owners who prefer continuing working with their old vehicles taking account of their own financial and business considerations, could decide not to join the scheme.
- (c) The one-off grant scheme for pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles will end on 31 March 2010. However, we have made a special arrangement to allow vehicle owners to take advantage of the remaining period of the application to replace their pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles, provided that they have placed orders for new replacement commercial vehicles before the expiry of the scheme and have applied to us on or before 7 April 2010 to retain their eligibility for the grant up to 31 March 2011. We have informed eligible vehicle owners of this special arrangement and encouraged them to participate in the scheme.

- (d) Upon receipt of the funding approval of the Financial Committee of the Legislative Council for the one-off scheme for the replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles, we will inform eligible vehicle owners of the details of the scheme and encourage them to participate in the scheme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 16 March 2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB133

Question Serial No.

2019

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : It was mentioned in the indicators of the Programme that the actual number of illegal deposit of waste offences in 2009 was 39, an increase of 11 over 2008. Please answer the following questions :

- (a) On combating illegal deposit of waste, how many reports of such offences were received in 2009-10 and how many enforcement actions were taken by the department?
- (b) Illegal dumping in Hong Kong is becoming more serious. Even roads of urban areas have become permanent dumping spots. What measures will be taken by the Administration in 2010-11 to continue combating such offences? What will be the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. PAN Pey-chyou

Reply :

- (a) In 2009, the enforcement actions carried out by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) against illegal depositing of waste were summarised as follows:-

Enforcement Action carried out by the EPD against dumping of waste	No. of cases
Number of complaint cases handled	3 499
Number of inspection conducted	11 355
Prosecution under the Waste Disposal Ordinance, Cap. 354	39
Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) issued under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness Offences) Ordinance, Cap. 570 (FPO) *	77

** As one of the government departments enforcing the FPO, the EPD will issue FPN (instead of summons under the Waste Disposal Ordinance) for minor offences involving waste dumped in small quantity.*

- (b) In 2010, the EPD will continue to make best use of its existing resources to combat illegal deposition of waste, especially construction waste. The EPD will continue to work with other government departments in handling complaints, clearing deposited wastes, taking enforcement actions against illegal activities under Waste Disposal Ordinance, and updating the database containing information of the sites subject to complaints of illegal land filling or fly-tipping activities. Regular inter-departmental meetings will be convened to monitor the overall situations of illegal fly-tipping and land filling throughout the territory.

The Government has proposed legislative amendments to the Waste Disposal Ordinance to further enhance the effectiveness of enforcement against unauthorized depositing of construction and demolition materials on private land. EPD is in the process of consulting the relevant stakeholders, including the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs, relevant district councils, Heung Yee Kuk, green groups, etc. Subject to the views received, EPD will prepare the legislative amendments as appropriate.

As all these actions form part of the EPD's routine integrated enforcement practices that cover a wide range of enforcement activities against different aspects of environmental pollution, it is not possible to provide a breakdown of expense specifically on tackling illegal deposition of waste.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 18 March 2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB134

Question Serial No.

1029

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : With regard to the work on promoting environmental protection, reducing air and carbon emissions, it seems that the Administration focuses only on areas such as traffic and transport and electricity services and has made no mention at all about the issue of environmental information technology brought along by the uses of computers and operation of data centres in its estimates of expenditures. Has the Administration reserved any funds in 2010-11 to promote environmental uses of information technology? If yes, please provide details of individual items, the expenditures and manpower involved, as well as the timeframe for implementation. If no, please advise if consideration will be given to commencing work in this area as soon as possible.

Asked by : Hon. TAM Wai-ho, Samson

Reply :

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) has promulgated practice guides on green management of data centres to bureaux and departments for their reference and adoption. A study on the adoption of virtualization technology which is conducive to green operation of data centres also commenced in February 2010. The estimated expenditures and staff efforts of OGCIO involved in the study in 2010-11 are \$640,000 and 16 man-months respectively. Separately, OGCIO has brought up the topic of green information and communication technology (ICT) in the context of the Digital 21 Strategy Advisory Committee and has facilitated discussions of an ad-hoc group of the Committee on relevant issues.

Complementing the measures from energy-saving perspective, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department has introduced mandatory and voluntary energy efficiency labelling schemes (EELS) to facilitate consumers in selecting energy-efficient household appliances and office equipment. Products of ICT, including computers, photocopiers, fax machines, multifunction devices, laser printers and LCD monitors have been included in the voluntary EELS by phases since 2000. EELS provides consumers with information on the energy performance level of the products to promote energy saving. The Environmental Protection Department is also conducting a public consultation on a new producer responsibility scheme for the proper management of waste electrical and electronic equipment. The public consultation will end on 30 April 2010. Separately, the Environment and Conservation Fund will continue to support local non-profit making organizations in carrying out environmental projects, including those which could improve the sustainable use of energy, such as projects that promote application of green ICT for energy saving and conservation.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB135

Head: 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational
expenses

Question Serial No.

2349

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Please provide the following information in tabular form on the procurement of services of employment agencies (EAs) from 2006-07 to 2009-10:

- a. the number of contracts signed with the EAs;
- b. the sum and term of service of each contract for each EA;
- c. the number of workers supplied under each EA contract and the duties involved;
- d. details of the workers' salaries (including monthly and daily wages) payable under each EA contract;
- e. the percentage of change in the number of EAs employed, the number of contracts signed, the number of workers employed and the total expenditure involved as compared to the previous year;
- f. if more than one EA is employed in a year, please provide information about the number of contracts signed with each EA, the total contract sum involved and the number of workers supplied by each EA;
- g. the maximum, minimum and median salaries of workers supplied by each EA;
- h. the proportion of workers supplied by the EAs in the existing staff in the department in each year; and
- i. the proportion of expenditure on procuring the services of the EAs in departmental expenses.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

	Type of Contract	2009-10 (as at 31.12.2009)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.2009)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.2008)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.2007)
(a) Number of contracts signed with EAs	T-contract (Note 1)	1	1	1	-
	Others	5 (+25%)	4 (+300%)	1	-
(b) ➤ Contract sum for each contract signed with EA (\$ million)	T-contract	14.39 (+10%)	13.09 (+46%)	8.96 (+40%)	6.39
	Others	0.10 to 1.14 (-2%)	0.10 (-86%) to 1.16 (+40%)	0.70	-
➤ Term of service for each contract signed with each EA	T-contract	12 months	12 months	12 months	12 months
	Others	11 months to 12 months	11 months to 12 months	11 months to 12 months	-
(c) Number of workers supplied under each EA contract and duties involved	T-contract	40 (+3%) Information technology support and system development	39 (+30%) Information technology support and system development	30 (+36%) Information technology support and system development	22 Information technology support and system development
	Others	1 to 11 General office support	1 to 11 General office support	8	-
(d) and (g) The workers' salaries (maximum, median and minimum salaries) payable by each EA	T-contract Others	<p>The contracts of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) entered into with employment agencies specify the service fee charged by the latter in providing agency workers. EPD normally does not specify the wages of agency workers, except with regard to the wages of non-skilled workers.^{Note} Hence, we are unable to provide the information requested.</p> <p><u>Note</u> : As a measure to protect non-skilled workers, the Administration promulgated a mandatory requirement on wage rates for government service contracts in May 2004. Under this requirement, service providers are required to offer monthly wages to non-skilled workers which are no less than the average monthly wages for the relevant industry/occupation as published in the latest Census and Statistics Department's Quarterly Report of Wage and Payroll Statistics at the time when tenders are invited. This requirement applies to service contracts in respect of supply of non-skilled agency workers.</p>			
(e) Please see () above for the percentage of change to items (a) to (c)					

(f) ➤ Number of contracts signed with each EA	T-contract	1	1	1	1
	Others	5	4	1	-
➤ Total contract sum involved with each EA (\$M)	T-contract	14.39	13.09	8.96	6.39
	Others	0.10 to 1.14	0.10 to 1.16	0.70	-
➤ Number of workers supplied by each EA	T-contract	40	39	30	22
	Others	1 to 11	1 to 11	8	-
(h) Proportion of workers supplied by the EAs in the existing staff in the department (Note 2)	T-contract	2.4%	2.4%	1.9%	1.4%
	Others	1.5%	1.3%	0.5%	-
(i) Proportion of expenditure on procuring the services of the EAs in departmental expenses	T-contract	0.6%	0.5%	0.3%	0.3%
	Others	0.1%	0.05%	0.003%	-

Note 1 T-contract refers to term contract centrally administered by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer.

Note 2 The percentage of agency workers as compared with total staff is for a specific date only and is not representative of the situation for the concerned financial year.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 16 March 2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB136

Question Serial No.

2350

Head : 44 Environmental
 Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title): 000
 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : (a) Please provide the following information on the employment and expected employment of temporary staff to provide services between 2007-08 and 2010-11:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Breakdown of the number of temporary staff employed	()	()	()	()
Breakdown of the total salary payments of temporary staff employed	()	()	()	()
Percentage of temporary staff employed in the total number of staff in the department	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year changes

(b) Please list the employment period of temporary staff employed and expected to be employed between 2007-08 and 2010-11:

Period	No. of staff in 2010-11	No. of staff in 2009-10	No. of staff in 2008-09	No. of staff in 2007-08
1/2 year	()	()	()	()
1 year	()	()	()	()
2 years	()	()	()	()
3 years	()	()	()	()
3 years or above	()	()	()	()

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) The Environmental Protection Department employs Non-Civil Service Contract (NCSC) staff to meet the service needs. On the assumption that temporary staff refers to those NCSC staff, the information requested between 2007-08 and 2009-10 is as follows –

	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Breakdown of the number of NCSC staff employed *	132 (-11.4%)	149 (+8.0%)	138 (-24.6%)
Breakdown of the total salary payments of NCSC staff employed (\$ million)	35.0 (+9.4%)	32.0 (+16.4%)	27.5 (+6.6%)
Percentage of NCSC staff employed in the total number of staff in the department	7.5%	8.5%	7.9%

* as at 31 December of the relevant year.

- (b) The employment period of NCSC staff employed between 2007-08 and 2009-10 is as follows -

Period	No. of staff in 2009-10	No. of staff in 2008-09	No. of staff in 2007-08
1/2 year	63 (-29.2%)	89 (+102.3%)	44 (-66.9%)
1 year	35 (+150.0%)	14 (-74.5%)	55 (+89.7%)
2 years	8 (-69.2%)	26 (+30.0%)	20 (+185.7%)
3 years	14 (+55.6%)	9 (+28.6%)	7 (+600.0%)
3 years or above	12 (+9.1%)	11 (-8.3%)	12 (-7.7%)

The figures for 2010-11 cannot be provided because it is difficult to project the number of NCSC staff to be employed in the next financial year as the employment of NCSC staff will vary from time to time having regard to the service needs and operational requirements.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB137

Question Serial No.

2351

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : (a) Please provide information on outsourced services (including property management, security, cleansing, telecommunications and information technology, statistics, etc., but excluding construction works) in the format set out below:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Value of outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Total number of workers employed under outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Number of outsourced service contracts replaced by civil servants	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year changes

(b) What is the number of outsourced service contracts that can be replaced by employment of permanent staff by the Government in the coming 3 years, i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

(a)

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	12	12(+2)	10(+1)	9
Value of outsourced service contracts (\$ million)	6.25 (+0.11)	6.14 (+2.51)	3.63 (-1.06)	4.69
Total number of workers employed under outsourced service contracts	For most of the outsourced service contracts, Environmental Protection Department (EPD) only specifies the types and level of services to be delivered by the contractors, rather than the number of staff to be employed for the services.			
Number of outsourced service contracts replaced by civil servants	-	-	-	-

Figures in () denote year-on-year changes

- (b) The outsourcing contracts mainly provide services including cleansing, information technology, sampling and laboratory testing, etc. This arrangement has helped EPD to focus on core services and increase flexibility by procuring services unavailable in-house. There is no plan to replace the outsourced service contracts by employment of permanent staff.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB138

Question Serial No.

2352

Head : 44 Environmental Protection
 Department

Subhead (No. & title): 000
 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : (a) Please provide the following information on the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff to provide services:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of NCSC staff	()	()	()	()
Total expenditure on salaries of NCSC staff	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff recruited as civil servants	()	()	()	()
If there were chances for conversion, the number of NCSC staff who failed to do so				
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff in the department	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year changes

(b) Please list the length of employment of NCSC staff from 2007-08 to 2010-11 in the following table.

Length of employment	No. of staff in 2010-11	No. of staff in 2009-10	No. of staff in 2008-09	No. of staff in 2007-08
Half to 1 year	()	()	()	()
1 to 3 years	()	()	()	()
3 to 5 years	()	()	()	()
5 to 10 years	()	()	()	()
10 to 15 years	()	()	()	()

(c) How many NCSC staff are expected to be converted to employment under the permanent civil service terms in the coming 3 years, i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

(a) The figures on the employment of NCSC staff from 2007-08 to 2009-10 are as follows-

	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
No. of NCSC staff *	132 (-11.4%)	149 (+8.0%)	138 (-24.6%)
Total expenses on salaries of NCSC staff (\$million)	35.0 (+9.4%)	32.0 (+16.4%)	27.5 (+6.6%)
No. of NCSC staff recruited as civil servants	7	6	-
If there were chances for conversion, the number of NCSC staff who failed to do so	33	20	5
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff in the department	7.5%	8.5%	7.9%

* as at 31 December of the relevant year.

(b) The information on the length of service since employed as NCSC staff is –

Length of employment	No. of staff 2009-10	No. of staff 2008-09	No. of staff 2007-08
Half to 1 year	63 (-29.2%)	89 (+102.3%)	44 (- 66.9%)
1 to 3 years	43 (+7.5%)	40 (-46.7%)	75 (+108.3%)
3 to 5 years	19 (+72.7%)	11 (+37.5%)	8 (-27.3%)
5 to 10 years	6 (-33.3%)	9 (-18.2%)	11 (+266.7%)
10 to 15 years	1	-	-

The figures for 2010-11 cannot be provided because it is difficult to project the number of NCSC staff to be employed in the next financial year as the employment of NCSC staff will vary from time to time having regard to the service needs and operational requirements.

(c) It is not possible to predict the number of NCSC staff who would be employed under the civil service terms in the coming years. In accordance with the prevailing civil service rules and regulations, civil service vacancies are filled through an open, fair and competitive recruitment process. All interested candidates, including NCSC staff, who meet the relevant basic entry requirements may apply for the civil service vacancies, and compete on the basis of their overall merits. As all the applicants have to go through a competitive selection process, we are unable to predict how many NCSC staff may be appointed as civil servants in the coming three years.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB139

Question Serial No.

1654

Head : 44 Environmental
 Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What are the results of the Government's subsidy schemes in encouraging the early replacement of diesel commercial vehicles and the purchasing of environment-friendly vehicles during 2007-08 and 2008-09? Has the Administration reviewed the effectiveness of the subsidy schemes?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Ting-kwong

Reply :

- (a) The number of diesel commercial vehicles that were replaced under the one-off grant scheme for the early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles are tabulated below:

Number of Vehicles Replaced under the One-off Grant Scheme		
Apr 2007- Mar 2008	Apr 2008-Mar 2009	Apr 2009-Feb 2010
4 659	6 432	2 978

We had reviewed the effectiveness of this scheme and reported the findings to the Air Quality Subcommittee of the Panel of Environmental Affairs at its meeting on 10 March 2010. In gist, given that the incentive scheme has only attracted around 24% of the eligible vehicle owners to replace their vehicles and that some 23 000 pre-Euro and 15 100 Euro I commercial diesel vehicles are still being licensed as at end 2009, we consider that other measures, such as introducing disincentive on the use of aged polluting commercial vehicles, should be explored.

- (b) The numbers of environment-friendly vehicles purchased under the first registration tax (FRT) incentive scheme for 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 are tabulated below

	Number of Environment-friendly Vehicles Purchased under the FRT Incentive Scheme		
	Apr 2007- Mar 2008	Apr 2008- Mar 2009	Apr 2009- Feb 2010
Environment-friendly Petrol Private Cars (commenced from 1 April 2007)	3 851	3 505	4 088
Environment-friendly Commercial vehicles(commenced from 1 April 2008)	Not applicable	246	291

The incentive schemes for environment-friendly vehicles are effective in encouraging vehicle vendors to bring such vehicles to the local market and vehicle owners to use them. Currently, there are 41 and 77 environment-friendly petrol private cars and commercial vehicle models available on the local market respectively, which are 2 times and 10 times more than those before the implementation of the respective tax incentive schemes.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 16 March 2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB140

Question Serial No.

1668

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Government has previously sought funding approval from LegCo to allot \$93 m to the Hong Kong Productivity Council for implementing a 5-year plan to support and promote the adoption of cleaner production technologies and practices by Hong Kong-owned factories in the Pearl River Delta (PRD) Region. What is the current progress of the plan? Is it possible to list in detail the number of participating enterprises, the amount of grants approved and the production effectiveness, etc.?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Ting-kwong

Reply :

In April 2008, we launched a five-year Cleaner Production Partnership Programme in conjunction with the Economic and Trade Commission of Guangdong Province to encourage and facilitate Hong Kong-owned factories operating in the PRD Region to adopt cleaner production technologies and practices with a view to reducing emissions and enhancing energy efficiency. The Programme provides funding support to participating factories to carry out on-site improvement assessments, implement demonstration projects and engage third party verification services to help verify the effectiveness of improvement projects. To arouse interest of Hong Kong-owned factories in the benefits of cleaner production, we also carry out extensive awareness promotion and publicity activities such as seminars, workshops, briefings, factory visits in conjunction with the trade/industry associations and municipal authorities in the PRD cities. In addition, a Project Management Committee has been set up to oversee the implementation of the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme. We also submit progress reports to Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs annually. Overall, the Programme has been well received by factory operators. As at end February 2010, a total of 493 funding applications were approved under the Programme. Over 120 awareness promotion activities were organized attracting some 15 000 participants. Between April 2008 and end February 2010, the Programme incurred a total expenditure of \$32.9 million. We have budgeted some \$22 million for 2010-11 under the Programme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB141

Question Serial
No.

1570

Head: 60 - Highways Department

Subhead 000 Operational
(No. & title): Expenses

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Under *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11*, the Highways Department has mentioned the commencement of the retrofitting of noise barriers on Fanling Highway only. What is the expenditure involved? Other than the one mentioned above, are there any noise barriers retrofitting works items for which studies are being conducted? If yes, please specify the locations involved.

Asked by: Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply:

The approved project estimate of retrofitting of noise barriers on Fanling Highway (MTR Fanling Station to Wo Hing Road) is HK\$247.1 million in money-of-the-day prices.

Investigation study is ongoing for the retrofitting of noise barriers along the following road sections to affirm the engineering feasibility and to identify practical noise mitigation options –

- (a) Tai Po Tai Wo Road;
- (b) Tai Po Road (Sha Tin Section);
- (c) Yuen Wo Road; and
- (d) Sha Tin Road.

Signature _____

Name in block letters WAI CHI SING

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB142

Question Serial No.

2581

Head : 100 Marine Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Port Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Marine

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

It is stated in paragraph 11 that the Marine Department will “review the reformed outsourcing arrangements for provision of marine cleansing services and fine-tune the arrangements as necessary”. In this connection, please provide information on the following:

- (a) the specific details of the arrangements;
- (b) the number of contracts awarded for provision of marine cleansing services, the contract sums and periods; and
- (c) the average monthly salary of staff engaged in the provision of the outsourced services.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) The reformed outsourcing arrangements of marine cleansing services took place from July 2005. Since then, marine refuse collection and scavenging services have been provided entirely by private contractors which operate a fleet of about 70 scavenging vessels including six government vessels chartered to them. Through the reformed outsourcing arrangements, we have consolidated the fragmented contracts for marine refuse collection and scavenging services into two contracts. More stringent outcome-oriented performance standards, which include the minimum cleanliness level to be maintained and the response time to restore specific areas to the minimum standard, were also specified in these contracts.
- (b) Marine refuse collection and scavenging services are provided under two contracts covering the entire waters of Hong Kong. The total contract sum for the two contracts is about \$154.4 million. Both contracts are valid for a period of five years from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2010 with a provision for extension for not more than 12 months.
- (c) The current average monthly wage of the cleansing workers employed by the contractors for marine refuse collection and scavenging services is \$5,360 on the basis of eight working hours per day and 26 working days per month.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

ROGER TUPPER

Director of Marine

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB143

Question Serial No.

0138

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Administration launched the Building Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes to subsidise building owners to carry out the comprehensive energy-cum-carbon audits. Please give a breakdown of the number of approved projects on energy-cum-carbon audits and projects on energy efficiency, names of approved buildings and number of flats, and the amount of approved provision since their implementation.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

Since the launch of the Building Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes with funding from the Environment and Conservation Fund, 300 applications have been approved. Details are as follows:

	Number of Approved Applications	Funding Approved (\$million)
Energy-cum-carbon Audits	92	5.4
Energy Efficiency Projects	208	61.3

Names of the buildings with approved projects are available on the website of the Schemes (<http://www.building-energy-funds.gov.hk/>). We do not have information on the number of flats in such buildings.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date 9 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB144

Question Serial No.

0383

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : According to paragraph 95 of the Budget Speech of the Financial Secretary, the Government has procured 10 electric vehicles (EVs). Please advise which departments will be allocated with EVs and how these EVs are used. Where were these EVs produced? What is the total cost of these vehicles? Whether there is any breakdown after they have come into service?

Asked by : Hon. Chan Hak-kan

Reply :

In 2009-10, the Government has placed orders for the supply of 10 electric vehicles (EVs) from a Japanese car manufacturer. Three have been delivered in December 2009 and the remaining will be delivered before the end of March 2010. They will be allocated to the following offices:

- (a) Chief Executive's Office (1 unit);
- (b) Chief Secretary for Administration's Office (1 unit);
- (c) Environment Bureau/ Environmental Protection Department (1 unit);
- (d) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (1 unit);
- (e) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (1 unit);
- (f) Hong Kong Police Force (4 units); and
- (g) Water Supplies Department (1 unit).

These vehicles will be used by the departments and offices concerned for official duties. The total cost of the 10 EVs is \$4.9 million. For the three EVs that have been put into use, no breakdown has been recorded.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB145

Question Serial No.

1485

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010–11, it is mentioned that the Environment Bureau will promote replacement of incandescent light bulbs by energy efficient lighting installations through various means. Would the Administration advise this Committee:

- (a) When will the cash coupons for compact fluorescent lamps (CFL) be issued as mentioned by the Chief Executive in his Policy Address last year in which he said CFL coupons would be issued to encourage the public to use CFLs;
- (b) What is the expenditure involved;
- (c) What is the specific incandescent light bulbs recovery plan; and
- (d) Apart from purchasing CFLs, will the Administration consider allowing the public to purchase other energy efficiency products with the coupons and what is the expenditure so involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

We noted community's concern over the proposed distribution of cash coupons for compact fluorescent lamps as announced in the 2009-10 Policy Address. In formulating the implementation details, the Government will continue to listen to views from the community on the proposed scheme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date 10 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB146

Question Serial No.

1486

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : When will the study on the issue of energy wastage of external lighting be completed? What are the specific directions and subject matters of the study? Will the assessment cover the impact on the business operation environment if the above installations are to be regulated? What follow-up work will be carried out after the study is completed? And what are the manpower and expenditure so involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

We are undertaking a consultancy study on the issue of energy wastage of external lighting. The consultants are now consolidating the study findings and finalizing the study. We expect that the study will be completed shortly.

The study covers the following areas: –

- (i) making reference to the experience of metropolises that are similar to Hong Kong in handling external lighting, e.g. whether it is by way of legislation or other means to address the issue, and making recommendations on how to deal with local situations;
- (ii) conducting research on the usage of external lighting in various representative areas in Hong Kong including residential area, commercial area, residential-cum-commercial area, new town, rural area, etc. Research areas include lighting distribution, intensity, energy consumption, impact, etc.; and
- (iii) carrying out survey on views of relevant stakeholders including residents, green groups, professional bodies, building owners, property management companies, and relevant trades including advertising, retailing, electrical and mechanical engineering, tourism, etc.

The Environment Bureau will consider the way forward in light of the findings. The total consultant fee for the study is \$3.15 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB147

Question Serial No.

1567

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Programme (2), the provision for 2010-11 is 18.9% (\$4 million) higher than the revised estimate for 2009-10. After deducting the provision for promoting the use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong, what are the details of the increased provision?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

In addition to \$3 million for publicity programme for promoting the use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong, an additional \$1 million has been earmarked for the publicity and administrative arrangements in respect of energy efficiency.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB148

Question Serial No.

1568

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What is the expenditure involved in the publicity programme for promoting the use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong in 2010-11? What are the details of the programme?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

With the introduction of electric vehicles (EVs) in the market, we are planning to strengthen publicity in 2010-11 to promote wider use of EVs through a variety of channels including website, vehicle trials and test drives, as well as local and international publicity events. We will also launch promotion to encourage the setting up of charging facilities by property developers, property managers and car park operators. We have earmarked \$3 million in 2010-11 for the publicity to promote wider use of EVs in Hong Kong.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

10 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB149

Question Serial No.

2495

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the consultation under all Programmes for the purposes of formulating and assessing policies, please provide the relevant information in the following format:

For items that have been allocated funds for consultation in 2009-10, please provide the relevant information in the following format:

Name / Content of Consultation	Revised Estimate (\$)	Progress of Consultation (under planning/in progress/completed)	Mode of Consultation (e.g. collection of written views, consultation meeting, focus group), number of consultation, names of group consulted, number of persons consulted	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the consultation findings and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been released to the public? If yes, through which channels? If no, what are the reasons?
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Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

Name / Content of Consultation	Revised Estimate (\$)	Progress of Consultation (under planning/in progress/completed)	Mode of Consultation (e.g. collection of written views, consultation meeting, focus group), number of consultation, names of group consulted, number of persons consulted	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the consultation findings and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been released to the public? If yes, through which channels? If no, what are the reasons?
Public engagement process on "Building Design to Foster a Quality and Sustainable Built Environment"	\$4.3 million	The public engagement was completed on 31 October 2009.	The Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) engaged various sectors of the community with the issue of an "Invitation for Response" document and	The SDC is analysing and considering the public views received in the public engagement. It aims to submit its recommendations and report to the	The SDC's report to the Government will be uploaded to the SDC website after its issue.

<p>conducted by the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC)</p>			<p>through various engagement events. Stakeholders were invited to participate in the engagement events to express their views and/or provide their views in writing through email, fax, post or the online forum. The SDC has also briefed and listened to the views of relevant bodies, including the Legislative Council Panel on Development, Chairs and Vice Chairs of the 18 District Councils, District Councillors, statutory and advisory bodies, professional institutes, the trade, green groups and non-government organizations. About 2 400 professionals and other stakeholders as well as general members of the public participated in 65 public engagement events organised by the Council and its partner organisations.</p>	<p>Government by mid 2010. The Administration will carefully consider the SDC's recommendations before deciding on the way forward.</p>	
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Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date 12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB150

Question Serial No.

2496

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Are there any resources reserved for consultation for the purposes of formulating and assessing policies in 2010-11? If yes, please provide information as follows:

Name/Content of Consultation	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of Consultation (under planning /in progress / completed)	Mode of Consultation (.e.g. collection of written views, consultation meeting, focus group), number of consultation, names of group consulted, number of persons consulted	Will the findings of consultations be released to the public if they are expected to be completed in this financial year i.e. 2010-11? If no, what are the reasons?
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Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

Name/Content of Consultation	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of Consultation (under planning /in progress / completed)	Mode of Consultation (.e.g. collection of written views, consultation meeting, focus group), number of consultation, names of group consulted, number of persons consulted	Will the findings of consultations be released to the public if they are expected to be completed in this financial year i.e. 2010-11? If no, what are the reasons?
Public engagement process to be conducted by the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC)	The public engagement process is still in the initial planning stage, \$4 million has been reserved in 2010-11.	Under planning – the SDC will deliberate and identify the sustainability issue for conducting a public engagement exercise in 2010-11.	The mode of consultation will be decided by the SDC in due course.	If there is a report on the SDC's public engagement process, it will be uploaded to the SDC's website after its issue.
Public consultation on "Restriction of Sale of Energy-inefficient Incandescent Light Bulbs".	It is premature to estimate the expenditure at this stage.	The preparation work for the public consultation is in progress.	The mode of consultation will be decided in due course.	The public consultation is anticipated to be completed in 2010-11 and the summary of views collected will be announced to the public.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date 12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB151

Question Serial No.

2095

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As stated in the Brief Description of Programme (2), the Environment Bureau launched the Building Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes to subsidise building owners to carry out energy-cum-carbon audits and energy efficiency projects. Will the Administration inform this Committee of the latest operation of the schemes; whether the responses of owners joining the schemes have been evaluated; the evaluation of the initial outcome; the expenditures and manpower involved in the schemes.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

Since the launch of the Building Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes under the Environment and Conservation Fund in April 2009, we have already received over 1 000 applications, among which 300 have been approved with the total amount of funding exceeding \$66.7 million. The estimated energy saving arising from the approved projects amounts to 43 million kWh per annum, with an annual reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by over 30 000 tonnes. We have engaged the Electrical and Mechanical Services Trading Fund to provide professional support for the operation of the schemes.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB152

Question Serial No.

3086

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under the "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11", it is said that the Environment Bureau will promote replacement of incandescent light bulbs by energy efficient lighting installations through various means. Will the Administration advise this Committee of the latest progress of work concerned? What is the latest progress of review of the cash coupon scheme for compact fluorescent lamps withdrawn earlier? When is the enhanced scheme expected to be launched at the earliest? What is the estimated initial expenditure for the new scheme?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

We noted community's concern over the proposed distribution of cash coupons for compact fluorescent lamps as announced in the 2009-10 Policy Address. In formulating the implementation details, the Government will continue to listen to views from the community on the proposed scheme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG** _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment _____

Date _____ 11 March 2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB153

Question Serial No.

0617

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please list the estimated expenditure on the salaries of Secretary for the Environment, Under Secretary for the Environment and Political Assistant to Secretary for the Environment for 2010-11?

Asked by : Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply :

The provisions earmarked for the salary provision for the Secretary for the Environment, the Under Secretary for the Environment and the Political Assistant to Secretary for the Environment in the 2010-11 Estimate under Head 137 are as follows:

	2010-11 Estimate (\$ million)
Secretary for the Environment	3.4
Under Secretary for the Environment	2.4
Political Assistant to Secretary for the Environment	1.7

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB154

Question Serial No.

1972

Head : 137 Government Secretariat:
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please advise the amount of resources actually used in 2008-09 and 2009-10 and the same earmarked in 2010-11 for the following items. What are the subject matters and policy objectives of the activities?

- (a) Expenditure on official visits, exchange programmes and meetings by Hong Kong officials in the Mainland;
- (b) Expenditure on departmental exchange programmes, official entertainment and meetings with Mainland officials in Hong Kong;
- (c) Expenditure on official visits, exchange programmes and meetings by Hong Kong officials in overseas countries or regions; and
- (d) Expenditure on departmental exchange programmes, official entertainment and meetings with overseas officials in Hong Kong.

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply :

Communicating with Mainland and overseas officials on the environmental policy and co-operating with Mainland and overseas authorities in environmental protection, sustainable development, conservation and energy areas are our ongoing objectives. The actual expenditure in 2008-09 and the 2009-10 revised estimate are as follows:

	2008-09 Actual (\$'000)	2009-10 Revised Estimate (\$'000)
(a) Expenditure on official visits, exchange programmes and meetings by Hong Kong officials in the Mainland	121	150
(b) & (d) Expenditure on departmental exchange programmes, official entertainment and meetings with Mainland and overseas officials in Hong Kong	31	90
(c) Expenditure on official visits, exchange programmes and meetings by Hong Kong officials in overseas countries or regions	362	1,240

In preparing the draft Estimates, we have conducted an overall planning and earmarked \$1.36 million for official visits, exchange programmes and meetings by Hong Kong officials in the Mainland and overseas countries / regions. Another \$90,000 has been earmarked for departmental exchange programmes, official entertainment and meetings with Mainland and overseas officials in Hong Kong

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB155

Question Serial No.

1984

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the issue of external lighting, the Administration commissioned the Parsons Brinckerhoff (Asia) Ltd. and Policy 21 Ltd. to conduct study on regulating external lighting by legislation last year and it was stated that the study report was expected to be completed in 2009. Please advise:

- (a) The details of progress of the above study and when the study report is expected to be made public; and
- (b) How the stakeholders will be consulted about their views and how the feasibility of regulating external lighting by legislation will be assessed.

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply :

We are undertaking a consultancy study on the issue of energy wastage of external lighting. The consultants are now consolidating the study findings and finalizing the study. We expect that the study will be completed shortly. The Environment Bureau will consider the way forward in light of the findings of the study, and will consult as appropriate the Legislative Council and members of the public including various trade associations and relevant stakeholders on its recommendations.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment _____

Date _____ 11 March 2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB156

Question Serial No.

0226

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010–11, it is stated in paragraph 11 that the Administration will 'continue to explore ways to encourage the use of cleaner vehicles, fuels and technologies that can help to reduce air pollution'. In this regard, the Financial Secretary stated in the Budget Speech the government's plan to purchase 10 to 20 such vehicles (electric vehicles) in each of the following few years. Please advise:

- (a) the estimated provision for the purchase, electricity payment and maintenance of electric vehicles (EVs) each year;
- (b) whether the number of EVs to be purchased each year will be revised so as to promote the wider use of environment-friendly vehicles;
- (c) which government department will be responsible for the maintenance and repair of EVs, whether the expenditure is to be borne by that department, and
- (d) whether the introduction of hybrid vehicles into Hong Kong will be actively explored; if yes, what are the costs incurred?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) The Government plans to procure 10 to 20 EVs annually in the next few years. In 2009-10, we have ordered ten EVs with a total cost of \$4.9 million. As EV technology and market are developing quickly, we can hardly project at this point in time the cost of vehicles, electricity consumption and maintenance on a long term basis.
- (b) Whether EVs can be introduced into the government fleet on a larger scale would depend on their performance, availability of suitable models, as well as operational and resource considerations.
- (c) Depending on the terms and conditions of the contract with the EV suppliers, the maintenance and repair of EVs will normally be undertaken by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department or the relevant supplier. The costs incurred will be borne by the user bureaux / departments.
- (d) We have been incentivising the import and use of hybrid vehicles. Under the Environment-friendly Petrol Private Cars scheme, compliant private cars will be entitled to a 30% reduction in their first registration tax (FRT), subject to \$50,000 per car. At present, 9 hybrid petrol vehicle models are eligible for such FRT concession. In addition, the Financial Secretary has proposed in this year's Budget Speech to accelerate the tax deduction for capital expenditure on hybrid vehicles among environment-friendly vehicles, such that enterprises can enjoy a 100 per cent profits tax deduction in the first year. The revenue implication of this tax incentive proposal is not expected to be significant as the proposal merely accelerates the tax deduction without offering additional tax reduction.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB157

Question Serial No.

2861

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : At present, the local fuel market has been operated in a “fast price hike but slow price slash” manner for a long time. What specific measures will be taken “to promote competition and transparency in the local fuel market”?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

Starting from October 2008, we have been posting onto Environment Bureau’s website, on a weekly basis, the movements in local import prices and retail prices of auto-fuel in comparison with movements of Singapore free-on-board prices for unleaded petrol and motor vehicle diesel to enhance the transparency of auto-fuel prices. In addition, as commissioned by this bureau, the Consumer Council has published in their website weekly, from November 2008 onwards, the local retail prices of auto-fuel and various cash or non-cash discounts. They have also launched in their website the “oil price calculator” in February 2009 (with mobile version being launched in April 2009) to promote price competition by oil companies and help consumers make a smart choice among oil companies given an array of discounts and benefits being offered. Arrangements have also been made by the Consumer Council to disseminate information on auto-fuel prices through additional channels, such as newspapers, radio and television.

On domestic fuels, Shell Hong Kong Limited (Shell), one of the major liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) suppliers in Hong Kong, has voluntarily adopted a pricing mechanism since 1999 to review their domestic LPG prices regularly with the Environment Bureau so as to enhance transparency in their pricing. After each price review, Shell will announce and explain to public the outcome of the review. As regards town gas, the Hong Kong and China Gas Company Ltd. has entered into the Information and Consultation Agreement with the Government since 1997 to increase the transparency in their tariff setting mechanism and provide justification in the event of tariff adjustments.

We shall continue to monitor whether the local fuel prices have been rising quickly but falling slowly, and will endeavour to promote competition and transparency in the market to facilitate consumers making their choice.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB158

Question Serial No.

2862

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In paragraph 4, regarding “to raise public awareness of and achieve energy efficiency and conservation through education”, please provide the following information:

- (a) amount of resources invested in the above-mentioned;
- (b) expected numbers of education and promotion programmes and estimated number of participants; and
- (c) method of measuring the effectiveness of the above-mentioned work.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

The educational and promotional activities for promoting energy efficiency and conservation include seminars, tours to the Education Path at the Headquarters of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, as well as campaigns and publications to enhance public awareness on energy efficiency and conservation. The estimated number of talks and visits is 270 for 2010-11.

The effectiveness of these activities is measured by the participation rate and feedback from participants. These activities were usually over-subscribed with positive feedbacks. These activities will continue in 2010-11 and the estimated expenditure is about \$1 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB159

Question Serial No.

2863

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : With reference to “conduct studies on the long-term market structure for the electricity market” in paragraph 6, please provide the following information:

- (a) whether the study is committed by the Government or conducted by a third-party organization;
- (b) the date for conducting the study;
- (c) the budget and the scope of the study; and
- (d) whether academics, professionals, relevant organizations or the general public will be invited to participate in the study.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

The Environment Bureau has engaged a consultant to conduct studies on the long-term market structure for the electricity market, which commenced in end January 2009. The studies explore various options of a new market mechanism and the associated regulatory framework for the electricity market, with due regard to the unique situation of Hong Kong. The studies cost \$2.9 million. Views from the electricity industry have been sought in the studies. We will consult other stakeholders and the general public when the studies are completed.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB160

Question Serial No.

2864

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In paragraph 6, regarding “promoted the use of electric vehicle through various measures, including the setting up of a Steering Committee on the Promotion of Electric Vehicles, the trials on electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles, and the closer collaboration with manufacturers of electric vehicles”, please provide the following information:

- (a) when the trials on electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles will be completed;
- (b) how the road safety of green vehicles is monitored;
- (c) how the collaboration with manufacturers of electric vehicles will be enhanced; and
- (d) when the bulk introduction of green vehicles into Hong Kong can be expected to materialize.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) In 2009-10, we conducted a six-month trial on Mitsubishi electric vehicle (EV), “i-MiEV”, from May to October 2009 and a three-month trial on two BYD’s (比亞迪) plug-in hybrid vehicles, “F3DM”, from July to October 2009.
- (b) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department were actively involved in the trials to provide technical support on the safety and performance of the vehicles.
- (c) In 2010-11, the Environment Bureau will continue to enhance cooperation with different EV manufacturers to promote wider adoption of EVs in Hong Kong. We will explore with these EV manufacturers the possibility of bringing their EVs or plug-in hybrid vehicles to Hong Kong for trial or test-driving. We will also explore with these manufacturers the early supply of their EVs to the Hong Kong market.
- (d) It is expected that commercial production and worldwide distribution of EVs will commence in 2011.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB161

Question Serial No.

1054

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the promotion on replacement of incandescent light bulbs by energy efficient lighting installations, please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the progress of related work and the expenditures involved over the past two years (i.e. 2008-09 and 2009-10); and
- (b) the details of work, targets and estimated expenditures in 2010-11.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

The Government has completed in 2009-10 a study on phasing out incandescent light bulbs. The cost of this study is around \$1.2 million.

In 2008-09 and 2009-10, the Government has spent \$1.35 million and \$6.9 million respectively in the adoption of energy-efficient lighting installations for replacing incandescent light bulbs in government buildings and venues. In 2009, the Environment Bureau has also issued a circular on the ceasing of procurement of tungsten filament lamps by the Government.

The Government will continue promoting the replacement of incandescent light bulbs by energy-efficient lighting installations. The Government plans to consult the public on progressively restricting the sales of incandescent light bulbs in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB162

Question Serial No.

1055

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the setting up of a District Cooling System in the Kai Tak Development, please inform this Committee of the progress of the preparation work, the expenditure involved and the expected completion date.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

The approved project estimate of the District Cooling System in the Kai Tak Development is \$1,671 million in money-of-the-day prices. Tenders evaluation for the Design-Build-Operate contract for the project is being finalised.

The District Cooling System will be developed and commissioned for operation in three phases, with the first phase targeted to be commissioned from 2013 onwards and the subsequent two phases targeted to be commissioned by mid 2016 and mid 2021 respectively to match the schedule of respective packages of developments at Kai Tak Development.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG** _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment _____

Date _____ 16 March 2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB163

Question Serial No.

1056

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the assessment on the feasibility of regulating external lighting by legislation taking account of the findings of the relevant studies and views from stakeholders, please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the findings and stakeholders' view in the study; the expenditures involved and the details of study and its results.
- (b) the details of work done for regulating external lighting by legislation over the past three years (i.e. from 2007-08 to 2009-10), the expenditures involved and the results.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

We are undertaking a consultancy study on the issue of energy wastage of external lighting and to assess the feasibility of regulating external lighting by legislation. The total consultant fee for the study is \$3.15 million. The study covers the following areas –

- (i) making reference to the experience of metropolises that are similar to Hong Kong in handling external lighting, e.g. whether it is by way of legislation or other means to address the issue, and making recommendations on how to deal with local situations;
- (ii) conducting research on the usage of external lighting in various representative areas in Hong Kong including residential area, commercial area, residential-cum-commercial area, new town, rural area, etc.. Research areas include lighting distribution, intensity, energy consumption, impact, etc.; and
- (iii) carrying out survey on views of relevant stakeholders including residents, green groups, professional bodies, building owners, property management companies, and relevant trades including advertising, retailing, electrical and mechanical engineering, tourism, etc.

The consultants are now consolidating the findings and stakeholders' views, and finalizing the study. We expect that the study will be completed shortly. There was no relevant expenditure in 2007-08 and 2008-09.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB164

Question Serial No.

1057

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : For the implementation of the Council for Sustainable Development's (SDC) education and publicity programmes, please advise:

- (a) the details and estimated expenditure of the implementation of the School Outreach Programme (SOP) in 2010-11;
- (b) the estimated expenditure of the "Sustainable Development School Award Programme" (SD SAP) in 2010-11, and the respective shares it takes in terms of the total estimated expenditure of SDC's education and publicity programmes and that of the Environment Bureau's education and publicity work,
- (c) whether there is any review of the SDC's performance effectiveness for the past 2 years, and what are the details of the review?

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) The SOP is an annual programme for all the secondary schools in Hong Kong. It is conducted in the form of school talks/workshops during which there will be an introduction to and an interactive dialogue on the sustainable development (SD) concept. Stakeholders and/or recipients of Sustainable Development Fund will be invited to deliver these talks/ workshops. The presenters will cite concrete examples with reference to current global and local issues and conduct discussions on how to put SD principles into practice in daily lives. For the current school year from September 2009 to June 2010, there are 58 secondary schools participating and 10 stakeholders assisting in delivering talks/workshops. The SOP for the coming school year (September 2010 to June 2011) is tentatively scheduled to be launched in mid 2010, and we estimate that about 70 schools will participate. The estimated expenditure in 2010-11 is about \$160,000.
- (b) All secondary schools in Hong Kong have been invited to participate in the second SD SAP which was launched in February 2009. There are 27 schools participating in the programme for Gold Award; 10 for Silver and 12 for Bronze. Participating schools are requested to participate and organize SD activities and submit their reports in August 2010, after which the reports would be assessed and awards would be given to recognize their efforts in 2010-11. The estimated expenditure of this programme in 2010-11 is about \$940,000; accounting for about 39% of the estimated expenditure for education and publicity programmes under SDC and about 17% of the estimated expenditure for education and publicity programmes under Head 137 of the Environment Bureau. In addition, the Environmental Protection Department, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, and Electrical and Mechanical Services Department also implement various education and publicity programmes under the policy portfolio of the Environment Bureau.
- (c) The effectiveness of the SDC's education and publicity programmes can be shown by the great support from the school sector and the general public. For example, the SOP has reached out to about 37 000 students in 130 schools in the past two years; and the first SD SAP (completed

in end 2008) was participated by 32 schools and 32 000 students and members of the community. Other efforts in promoting SD include publications in news media and online resource centre, which have raised the public's awareness and understanding of the SD concept. We would continue to educate different sectors of the community through various interactive means to enhance their awareness of SD concept and promote SD practice in their daily lives.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date 18 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB165

Question Serial No.

1058

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As regards the provision of training programmes for bureaux and departments on the sustainable development principles and the sustainable assessment system, please advise:

- (a) details of the relevant work, the expenditure incurred and its effectiveness of the past two years (i.e. 2008-09 and 2009-10), and the work plan, target and budget for 2010 (i.e. 2010-11);
- (b) whether there is any review of the performance effectiveness for the past 2 years (i.e. 2008-09 and 2009-10); what are details of the review, and what are the total numbers of bureaux and departments that have accepted more than half of the Sustainable Development Division's proposals; and
- (c) how many members of the Council for Sustainable Development are from green groups, and how is their participation (such as the number of meetings, publicity events, outreach programmes and public activities attended)?

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) The Sustainable Development Division has been regularly organising training programmes for government staff. The objectives of the training programmes are to strengthen the concept and application of sustainable development within the Government and to upgrade general capability in applying the sustainability assessment system. Computer training on sustainability assessment system and workshops on sustainability concepts and assessment are organized.

In the past two years (i.e. 2008-09 and 2009-10), we provided sustainable development training to about 320 and 370 government staff with \$0.41 million and \$0.43 million respectively. Awareness and understanding of the sustainable development concept among various bureaux/departments has been raised in the past years.

In 2010-11, the amount of expenditure involved in training programmes is estimated to be about \$1.15 million for an estimated number of 300-400 participants. The increase in expenditure is mainly due to the enhancement of the contents of the training programmes.

- (b) To integrate sustainability principles into the Government's decision-making process, bureaux/departments are required to conduct sustainability assessments for major government proposals and new policy initiatives. The sustainability assessment system provides a structured framework for bureaux/departments to identify the sustainability implications associated with a proposal. So far, we have been able to promote the awareness and understanding of the sustainable development concept among Government staff and about 260 sustainability assessments have been conducted by bureaux/departments in 2008-09 and 2009-10. The Sustainable Development Division is tasked to facilitate bureaux/departments to take sustainable development considerations into account in their policy formulation

through the sustainability assessment system.

- (c) Members of the Council for Sustainable Development are appointed in their personal capacity. We do not keep records on Members' participation in the Council on the basis of their professional or other associations.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____ 16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB166

Question Serial No.

0394

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : It is stated in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, the Environment Bureau will promote replacement of incandescent light bulbs by energy efficient lighting installations through various means. Please provide the following information:

- (a) Last year, the Administration planned to issue coupons for compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) to encourage the public to stop using incandescent light bulbs but the scheme was subsequently suspended. What is the progress of the review on the scheme?
- (b) What is the time table for implementing the new scheme to issue coupons for CFLs?
- (c) Will the new coupons for CFLs only apply to the purchase of CFLs or also apply to other energy efficient lighting products?
- (d) What is the face value of the new coupons for CFLs?
- (e) Is there any provision earmarked for the expenditure involved? If yes, under which item is it reflected? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

We noted community's concern over the proposed distribution of cash coupons for compact fluorescent lamps as announced in the 2009-10 Policy Address. In formulating the implementation details, the Government will continue to listen to views from the community on the proposed scheme. Should the revised scheme involve public expenditure (the level of which would depend on the revision to the scheme and relevant details), the resource required would be allocated from Head 106 subhead 789 Additional Commitments.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____ 10 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB167

Question Serial No.

0772

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As regards the promotion of the use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong, what concrete plans are in place for setting up charging infrastructure in different districts and for conducting publicity? What is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-yee, Miriam

Reply :

In 2010-11, the Government will continue to encourage the business sector, including the power companies, property developers and private car park operators, etc., to expand the charging networks for electric vehicles (EVs) in Hong Kong. Among other things, the two power companies have already launched their first batch of charging stations in late 2009. They are now implementing their plans to build a total of 28 charging stations in various car parks throughout the territory and intend to complete the works by mid 2010. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department has also issued guidelines on installation of charging facilities in car parks to encourage operators to provide such facilities. The Government will further consider other feasible measures to facilitate the installation of charging facilities in residential and commercial premises for domestic and work place charging.

As regards government car parks, we have built charging stations in nine government car parks and will build more than 20 such stations this year. As it is the Government's plan to introduce 10 to 20 EVs into its fleet each year, we will need to set up more charging facilities in government car parks to cater for the increasing demand for EV charging services. The provision in 2010-11 for publicity programme for promoting the use of EVs is \$3 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB168

Question Serial No.

2693

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Administration will continue to engage the community to conduct carbon audit for buildings as well as initiate carbon reduction programmes in 2010-11. Please provide a breakdown of the details of measures and the expenditures involved.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

In July 2008, the Government embarked upon the “Green Hong Kong • Carbon Audit” campaign by inviting organisations from different sectors of the community to join the cause of carbon auditing. So far, more than 150 organisations from the property development and management, hotel, banking and logistics sectors, professional bodies, universities, non-profit organisations, etc. have become our “Carbon Audit • Green Partners”, and they undertake to conduct carbon audits and to initiate carbon reduction programmes in their buildings. For 2010-11, funding will be provided for the following initiatives to engage the community to conduct carbon audit for buildings as well as initiate carbon reduction programmes : -

- (a) Engaging major local trade associations to take forward "Green Hong Kong • Carbon Audit" Campaign (\$4.1 million); and
- (b) Engaging local community associations in organising neighbourhood workshops and community programmes on climate change and climate auditing (\$4 million)

We have also been promoting carbon audit through the Building Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes, under which \$150 million from the Environment and Conservation Fund has been earmarked for subsidizing building owners to conduct energy-cum-carbon audits. So far, we have received more than 200 applications as regards such audits, among which 92 applications have been approved with a total funding of about \$5.4 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____ 12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB169

Question Serial No.

2695

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The provision for 2010–11 is \$25.2 million, which is 18.9% higher than the expenditure for 2009–10. The Administration indicated that this is mainly due to the additional provision for promoting the use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong. Please list the details and breakdown of expenditure under this Programme.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

With the introduction of electric vehicles (EVs) in the market, we are planning to strengthen publicity in 2010-11 to promote wider use of EVs through a variety of channels including website, vehicle trials and test drives, as well as local and international publicity events. We will also launch promotion to encourage the setting up of charging facilities by property developers, property managers and car park operators. We have earmarked \$3 million in 2010-11 for the publicity to promote wider use of EVs in Hong Kong.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB170

Question Serial No.

2696

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : (1) The Administration promoted the use of electric vehicles in 2009-10. Please list the effectiveness of the work concerned and the breakdown of expenditure.

- (2) The Administration will continue to promote the use of electric vehicles during 2010-11. Please provide the relevant work plan and the breakdown of expenditure in order to encourage more people to use electric vehicles.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

- (1) In 2009-10, we conducted trials on Mitsubishi electric vehicle (EV), "i-MiEV", and BYD's (比亞迪) plug-in hybrid vehicles "F3DM". Key progress has been achieved in the collaboration with EV manufacturers. Apart from the signing of memoranda of understanding with Mitsubishi and Nissan Motor in February and April 2009 respectively, the Government has also secured Mitsubishi's agreement on the supply of 30 EVs from its first batch of limited production, in which the Government has procured 10 units. On the development of EV charging infrastructure, the Government has built charging stations in nine government car parks and has been encouraging the business sector, including the power companies, property developers and private car park operators, etc., to set up charging facilities for EVs. The two power companies have already launched their first batch of charging stations in late 2009, and a quick charger was launched in February 2010. As the expenditure for the above initiatives has been absorbed by the Environment Bureau's existing resources, we have no breakdown of the expenditure.
- (2) Apart from continuing to foster closer collaboration with EV manufacturers and to expand the EV charging network, we are also planning to strengthen publicity in 2010-11 through a variety of channels including website, vehicle trials and test drives, as well as local and international publicity events. We will also launch promotion to encourage the setting up of charging facilities by property developers, property managers and car park operators. We have earmarked \$3 million in 2010-11 for the publicity to promote wider use of EVs in Hong Kong.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

12 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB171

Question Serial No.

2697

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Administration launched the Building Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes to subsidise building owners to carry out energy-cum-carbon audits and energy efficiency projects in 2009-10. Please advise the effectiveness of the schemes and the details.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

Since the launch of the Building Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes under the Environment and Conservation Fund in April 2009, we have already received over 1 000 applications, among which 300 have been approved with the total amount of funding of \$66.7 million. The estimated energy saving arising from the approved projects amounts to 43 million kWh per annum, with an annual reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by over 30 000 tonnes.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG** _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment _____

Date _____ 12 March 2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB172

Question Serial No.

0541

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In what ways will the Environment Bureau utilize the estimated provision under Programme (2)

- (a) to promote enhanced collaboration with the manufacturers of electric vehicles from Japan, United States, Europe and the Mainland;
- (b) apart from collaborating with the manufacturers from Japan for test-driving electric vehicles, to liaise with the Mainland manufacturers and investigate the feasibility of introducing their electric vehicles into Hong Kong. If not, is it due to inadequate funding?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew

Reply :

In 2010-11, the Environment Bureau will continue to enhance cooperation with different electric vehicle (EV) manufacturers, including those in Japan, Europe, United States and the Mainland to promote wider adoption of EVs in Hong Kong. We will explore with these EV manufacturers the possibility of bringing their EVs or plug-in hybrid vehicles to Hong Kong for trial or test-driving throughout the year.

We will also explore with these manufacturers the early supply of their EVs to the Hong Kong market. In particular, we will discuss with EV manufacturers in the Mainland the possibility of developing right-hand-drive EVs for sale in Hong Kong.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date 10 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB173

Question Serial No.

0542

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In programme (2), how much estimated provision will be used by the Environment Bureau to promote environmental protection and energy conservation in government buildings? How much expenses are expected to be saved in the electricity bill? Will the Environment Bureau promote the same to other buildings of the public sector with a view to assisting them in energy conservation and emission reduction?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew

Reply :

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department will allocate \$131.2 million non-recurrent funding in 2010-11 to carry out improvement works to enhance the energy efficiency of government buildings and public facilities. Energy saving projects being carried out include the installation of high energy efficiency lighting systems, occupancy lighting controls, light emitting diode spot lights and exit signs, energy efficient variable speed drives, energy efficient air conditioning systems, as well as high energy efficiency motors and pumps. Upon completion of the projects, it is estimated that an annual saving of about \$11.0 million in electricity bill could be achieved.

The Government has adopted since April 2009 a comprehensive target-based environmental performance framework for government buildings and set targets in various environmental aspects, such as energy efficiency, renewable energy, indoor air quality and greenhouse gas emission. Bureaux and departments are requested to share these environmental features with subvented bodies and quasi-government organisations under their purview for reference as appropriate.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

15 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB174

Question Serial No.

0921

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the item "conducted studies on the long-term market structure for the electricity market" in 2009-10, please advise the details of the subject matters, methodology, progress and effectiveness of the study, as well as the expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

The Environment Bureau has engaged a consultant to conduct studies on the long-term market structure for the electricity market, which commenced in end January 2009. The studies, which is currently ongoing, explore various options of a new market mechanism and the associated regulatory framework for the electricity market, with due regard to the unique situation of Hong Kong. The studies cost \$2.9 million, of which \$1.7 million was incurred in 2009-10.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB175

Question Serial No.

1965

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : It is reported that staff members wearing "cotton wadded jackets" were spotted working in "cold" offices. What are the energy efficiency measures to be adopted by the Administration to reduce the use of air-conditioning in the new financial year, i.e. 2010-11?

Apart from reducing the use of air-conditioning, what other green and energy efficiency measures have been adopted by the Administration? For example, whether the Administration has requested its staff to turn off their desk-top computers during lunch hours and use more environment-friendly paper? Beside, has the Administration set targets for environmental protection and energy efficiency for government departments?

Asked by : Hon. TSE Wai-chun, Paul

Reply :

To encourage the efficient use of air-conditioning system, the Government has required all bureaux and departments to maintain their air-conditioned room temperature at 25.5 degree Celsius since summer 2005. The Environment Bureau has issued circulars to re-state this requirement in 2008 and 2009. The Government has also adopted since April 2009 a comprehensive target-based environmental performance framework for government buildings and set targets in various environmental aspects, such as energy efficiency, renewable energy, indoor air quality and greenhouse gas emission.

Since early 1990s, a green manager scheme was set up in the Government to oversee green housekeeping measures in individual government offices. All government bureaux and departments have appointed green managers to improve their environmental performance. The Environment Bureau and the Environmental Protection Department issue from time to time guidelines to bureaux and departments to advise them to implement energy conservation measures (e.g. reducing lighting to minimum required for illumination, switching off electrical appliances outside office hours), waste management measures (e.g. encourage communication by email, printing on both sides of paper, collection of waste paper and printer cartridges for recycling) and use of green products (e.g. recycled paper).

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB176

Question Serial No.

2307

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In paragraph 6, on “commenced preparation for the setting up of a District Cooling System in the Kai Tak Development”, please provide the following information:

- (a) the time table of the above work;
- (b) the estimated provision and staff establishment of the project; and
- (c) the location of the system.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply :

The District Cooling System will be developed and commissioned for operation in three phases, with the first phase targeted to be commissioned from 2013 onwards and the subsequent two phases targeted to be commissioned by mid 2016 and mid 2021 respectively to match the schedule of respective packages of developments at Kai Tak Development. The whole system will be located within Kai Tak Development. The approved project estimate of the project is \$1,671 million (in money-of-the-day prices) and we estimate that the proposed works will create about 460 jobs (377 labourers and 83 professional/technical staff) providing a total employment of 20 800 man-months.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

16 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB177

Question Serial No.

3145

Head : 705 – Civil Engineering Subhead:
5045CG District Cooling System at the Kai Tak Development

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The approved project estimate for the District Cooling System (DCS) at the Kai Tak Development is \$1,671 million and the estimated expenditure for 2010-11 is only \$170 million. Please advise the expenditure schedule of the remaining \$1,501 million. How can the construction programme be expedited?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

The DCS project will be developed and commissioned for operation in phases, with the first phase targeted to be commissioned from 2013 onwards and the subsequent two phases targeted to be commissioned by mid 2016 and mid 2021 respectively to match the schedule of respective packages of developments at Kai Tak Development. The Department will endeavour to expedite the construction programme to match with the overall development programme of the Kai Tak Development.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

15 March 2010