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23 December 2010

Clerk to Public Works Subcommittee  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
3rd Floor, Citibank Tower  
3 Garden Road Hong Kong  
(Attn: Ms Angel SHEK)

Dear Ms SHEK,

**Public Works Subcommittee**  
**Follow-up to meeting on 10 February 2010**

**Supplementary information pertaining to item PWSC(2009-10)87**

We refer to your letter referenced CB1/F/2/6(III) of 17 February 2010 to the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury.

In considering the paper referenced PWSC(2009-10)87 on upgrading 341DS “Harbour Area Treatment Scheme, stage 2A – upgrading of Stonecutters Island sewage treatment works and preliminary treatment works” to Category A, the Public Works Subcommittee requested the Administration to provide information on the following –

- (a) the Administration was requested to provide supplementary information about the consultation with relevant district councils, in particular the Tuen Mun District Council, on the proposed expansion of facilities at Stonecutters Island sewage treatment works, as well as the upgrading of sludge reception facilities at the existing West New Territories landfill piers;
- (b) at the request of Prof. Hon. Patrick LAU, the Administration agreed to provide information on the views and suggestions received from the Harbour-front Enhancement Committee (HEC) regarding the proposed layout design of the preliminary treatment works upgrading works at Wanchai and Central; and

- (c) at the request of Hon WONG Kwok-hing, the Administration undertook to provide information on the result of monitoring the water quality of closed Tsuen Wan beaches over the period from March to October 2010, and advise whether the water quality would meet the desired standards good enough for re-opening the beaches concerned in due course.

The Administration has provided replies on (a) and (b) on 19 April 2010 (LC paper no. PWSC57/09-10). We would like to provide the Administration's response to (c) as follows.

### **Water quality monitoring results of closed Tsuen Wan beaches over the period from March to October 2010**

The annual geometric means *E. coli* levels of the Tsuen Wan closed beaches in 2010 bathing season (March to October) are as shown below.

<b>Beach</b>	<b>Annual geometric mean <i>E. coli</i> level (count/100 mL) in 2010 bathing season*</b>
<b>Anglers'</b>	134
<b>Approach</b>	124
<b>Casam</b>	102
<b>Gemini</b>	137
<b>Hoi Mei Wan</b>	87
<b>Lido</b>	87
<b>Ting Kau</b>	141

\* Bathing season refers to the period from March to October of each year.

The Water Quality Objective (WQO) for bathing beaches set under the Water Pollution Control Ordinance states that the level of *E. coli* should not exceed 180 counts per 100 mL, calculated as the geometric mean for all samples collected from March to October. All seven beaches comply with the WQO in 2010.

### **Meeting the statutory Water Quality Objective for Hong Kong's bathing waters**

The improvement in water quality of these beaches is the result of the Government's continuous efforts in providing new public sewers and sewage treatment facilities in phases along Castle Peak Road in the beach hinterland and in

enforcing environmental legislation. The full operation of the advance disinfection facilities at the Stonecutters Island sewage treatment works since March 2010 has further improved the water quality of Tsuen Wan beaches.

With the above measures in place and the compliance with the WQO for these beaches in 2010, we consider the water quality of the seven closed beaches is suitable for bathing. The Government will finalize the plans for re-opening of the beaches in phases and has discussed with the relevant District Council.

We should be grateful if you would distribute this letter to PWSC Members.

Yours sincerely,



(Dr. H. Y. YEUNG)

for Director of Environmental Protection

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