

**Subcommittee on Energy Efficiency (Labelling of Products)
(Amendment of Schedules) Order 2009**

**Information requested at the First Meeting
on 16 November 2009**

INTRODUCTION

This paper provides Members with supplementary information requested at the meeting held on 16 November 2009.

**PRODUCT COVERAGE OF MANDATORY ENERGY
EFFICIENCY LABELLING SCHEME**

2. The Administration is requested-

“to provide a paper setting out the 18 products under the voluntary Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme (EELS) in the order of energy consumption level, the criteria adopted in considering the inclusion of additional products from the voluntary EELS (VEELS) to the subsequent phases of mandatory EELS (MEELS) and the respective timetables, as well as the rationale for not including certain products in the MEELS. To also advise whether the trades would be informed in advance of the proposed inclusion of additional products in the MEELS.”

3. The rationale for covering the three products in the initial phase (i.e. room air conditioners, refrigerating appliances and compact fluorescent lamps) and the two products in the second phase (i.e. washing machines and dehumidifiers) of MEELS has been set out in the papers to Legislative Council Panel on the Environmental Affairs with references CB(1) 1869/04-05(01) and CB(1) 2197/08-09(05). Rationale for not including other products under VEELS in the MEELS is set out at the Annex. The Administration will consult the trades on the proposed

inclusion of additional products in the MEELS.

4. The Administration is requested-

“to confirm that it is the Administration’s intention to bring the local energy labelling requirements on a par with but not ahead of other overseas jurisdictions. To promote energy efficiency as a means to tackle climate change, the Administration should work with the international arena to extend the energy labelling requirements to other products.”

5. In formulating proposals on the MEELS, we have made reference to international experience and taken into account local situation. We will continue to monitor development of best practices in the international arena with a view to upgrading the energy performance requirements of products covered by the two phases of the MEELS as well as the need and justification for further extension of product coverage in consultation with the trade.

RECYCLING OF COMPACT FLUORESCENT LAMPS

6. The Administration is requested-

“to advise the plan being contemplated to recycle used compact fluorescent lamps (CFL) under the initial phase of MEELS. Consideration should also be given to including in the energy labels the need to recycle the waste products to promote public awareness in this respect.”

7. At present, used CFLs in Hong Kong can be recycled under the Fluorescent Lamp Recycling Programme and delivered to the Chemical Waste Treatment Plant at Tsing Yi for treatment. To cater for the wider use of CFLs, the Administration will step up the collection of used CFL as well as enhance the capacity of the Chemical Waste Treatment Plant for their treatment and disposal. The primary function of energy label is to provide consumers with information on energy performance of the products for reference in purchasing decisions. While a general message to encourage recycling of waste products may be incorporated, more

detailed information on recycling should be conveyed separately through appropriate channels.

INITIAL PHASE OF MEELS

8. The Administration is requested-

“to advise the latest progress of the initial phase of MEELS.”

9. Implementation of the initial phase of the MEELS is generally smooth. As at 20 November 2009, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has carried out inspections at 500 shops, among which 96% of shops have been compliant with the requirements under MEELS. Twenty prohibition notices have been issued to non-compliant cases.

WASHING MACHINES

10. The Administration is requested -

“to advise the basis upon which the energy performance of washing machines is arrived at and the rationale for only including the energy performance of washing machines in the energy label even if they have built-in dryers. To include the concept of water conservation in the publicity programmes for the second phase of MEELS on washing machines.

11. The energy efficiency performance of a washing machine is determined by measuring the energy consumption (in terms of kilowatt-hours) in a complete washing cycle when the rated amount of textiles (in terms of kilograms) (i.e. the rated washing capacity of the product as specified by the manufacturer) is loaded into the washing machine. This energy consumption is then multiplied by 260 (assumed number of washes per year) to obtain the annual energy consumption data shown on the energy label.

12. Measuring and evaluating only the washing function of the

combined washer/dryers is in line with the practice of MEELS in other economies including Australia and the Mainland China. We will feature the concept of water conservation in the publicity programmes for the second phase of MEELS on washing machines.

Environment Bureau
November 2009

**Rationale for not Including Certain Products under VEELS
in the MEELS**

	Products	Low Potential Energy Saving	Low Sales Volume	No Accredited Laboratory in Hong Kong	No International Testing Standard	Low Penetration Rate under VEELS (Note 2)	Not commonly included in overseas MEELS	Remarks
1.	Electric storage water heaters	✓		✓				Only the energy consumed to maintain a stable water temperature inside the storage water heater to compensate its standing loss is assessed.
2.	Television sets	✓		✓		✓ (6%)	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the VEELS, only the energy consumed in the products' standby mode is assessed. • The international standard for testing the on-mode power was only launched recently. • The television product model life is very short. MEELS may have significant adverse effect on the short launching time of the new models.
3.	Electric rice cookers	✓		✓	✓	✓ (0%)	✓	

	Products	Low Potential Energy Saving	Low Sales Volume	No Accredited Laboratory in Hong Kong	No International Testing Standard	Low Penetration Rate under VEELS (Note 2)	Not commonly included in overseas MEELS	Remarks
4.	Electric clothes dryers	✓	✓	✓		✓ (0%)		
5.	Electronic ballasts	✓		✓		✓ (<5%)		
	Domestic gas water heaters	✓		✓			✓	
	Office equipment (Note 3)	✓		✓		✓ (largely 0%-20%, except for multifunction devices which is 50%)	✓	Under VEELS, only standby power is assessed for these equipments (except LCD monitors for which on-mode power is also assessed). The standby mode energy consumption is relatively small when compared with the on-mode consumption.

Note 1: Products 1 to 5 are ranked in descending order of their electricity consumption. Domestic gas water heaters use gas as the source of fuel, and office equipment comprises a number of products, and thus have not been included in such ranking.

Note 2: The estimated penetration rate figures of individual products under VEELS are primarily the findings of the trade survey commissioned by the EMSD in 2008.

Note 3: Office equipments include photocopiers, multifunction devices, laser printers, LCD monitors, computers, fax machines and bottled water dispenser