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Clerk to Public Accounts Committee
Legislative Council
Legislation Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn : Ms Macy Ng)

25 May 2010

Dear Macy,

**The Director of Audit's Report on the
results of value for money audits (Report No.54)**

Development of EcoPark (Chapter 5)

I refer to your letter of 17 May 2010 to the Director of Environmental Protection on the above subject and would like to provide the required information as follows:-

(a) **Reasons for not providing cost savings in the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) paper**

The establishment of EcoPark helps to promote recycling and reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal at landfills. When assessing the economic effectiveness of EcoPark, however, we cannot generalise a conclusion by simply equating the total quantity of recyclable waste materials processed at EcoPark to the total quantity of waste that would otherwise have been landfilled and then deduce from it the cost of landfilling so avoided. The main reason is that prior to the EcoPark project, some of the recyclable waste materials targeted for processing in EcoPark were already exported for recycling, albeit without going through any value-added processes, instead of being disposed of at landfills.

(b) **EcoPark Advisory Committee**

The EcoPark Advisory Committee was set up in December 2006 and its terms of reference is attached at Annex 1. In December 2008, the membership was expanded to include representatives from five more organisations as listed in Annex 2. The agendas of the EcoPark Advisory Committee meetings held since its establishment are attached at Annex 3. As these meetings were not conducted in open session and Members were not told beforehand that the detailed discussion would be disclosed to the public, it would not be appropriate to include the minutes of meetings in the PAC report.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours faithfully,



(Ellen Chan)

for Director of Environmental Protection

Encl.

c.c. Secretary for the Environment
Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (fax : 2147 5239)
Director of Audit (fax : 2583 9063) } w/Encl.

EcoPark Advisory Committee Meeting

Terms of Reference

Having regard to the economic and business environment of the environmental and recycling industries and their development, to advise the Administration on the following :

- (a) the strategic planning and business development of EcoPark, and
- (b) the lot allocation arrangements, tenant admission criteria, and tender evaluation scheme of the EcoPark.

EcoPark Advisory Committee – Membership

(from December 2006)

- (1) Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
- (2) Federation of Hong Kong Industries
- (3) Environmental Management Division, Hong Kong Productivity Council
- (4) Hong Kong Waste Management Association
- (5) Environmental Division, Hong Kong Institution of Engineers

(from December 2008)

- (1) Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
- (2) Federation of Hong Kong Industries
- (3) Environmental Management Division, Hong Kong Productivity Council
- (4) Hong Kong Waste Management Association
- (5) Environmental Division, Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
- (6) The Chinese General Chamber of Commerce
- (7) Hong Kong Science and Technology Park Corporation
- (8) Invest Hong Kong, HKSAR Government
- (9) Waste Management Subcommittee, Advisory Council on the Environment
- (10) Department of Marketing and International Business, Lingnan University

EcoPark Advisory Committee

Agenda for the 1st Meeting on 8 December 2006

- Agenda 1 - Objectives and Terms of Reference (ToR)
- Agenda 2 - Issues on confidentiality and declaration of conflict of interest
- Agenda 3 - Introduction on the objectives of EcoPark and its mode of operation (Paper 1-I)
- Agenda 4 - Report on the latest development of the EcoPark, Phase I (Paper 1-I)
- Agenda 5 - Report on the findings of the Expression of Interest (EOI) Report (Paper 1-II)
- Agenda 6 - Proposed Land Allocation in Phase I (Paper 1-III)
- Agenda 7 - Admission and Evaluation Criteria for Phase I lots (Paper 1-IV)
- Agenda 8 - Advice on the development of the EcoPark, Phase II
- Agenda 9 - Date for the next meeting
- Agenda 10 - Any other business

Agenda for the 2nd Meeting on 7 May 2007

- Agenda 1 - Confirmation of Minutes of the 1st Meeting
- Agenda 2 - Report on the tender results of Batch 1 lots in Phase I (Paper 2-I)
- Agenda 3 - Discussion on proposed selection criteria and allocation for Batch 2 lots in Phase I (Paper 2-II)

- Agenda 4 - Operator's report on the preparatory work (Paper 2-III)
- Agenda 5 - Any other business

Agenda for the 3rd Meeting on 9 December 2008

- Agenda 1 - Issues on confidentiality and conflict of interest
- Agenda 2 - Introduction to the EcoPark Advisory Committee's role and functions
- Agenda 3 - Review of the EcoPark development and issues to be addressed in its future management to promote recycling in Hong Kong (Discussion Paper EAC 03/1)
- Agenda 4 - Any other business

Agenda for the 4th Meeting on 19 May 2009

- Agenda 1 - Matters Arising from last Meeting
- Agenda 2 - Progress of EcoPark Phase I
(Information Paper EAC 04/1 Progress Report of the EcoPark Phase I Development)
- Agenda 3 - Proposed Allocation of Phase II Land
(Information Paper EAC 04/2 Proposal for allocating land in EcoPark Phase II)
- Agenda 4 - Any other business