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雷即

TEL NO : 2594 6110

圖文傳真

FAX NO : 3121 5712

電子郵件 E-MAIL

址

HOMEPAGE: http://www.epd.gov.hk/

## Environmental Protection Department Headquarters

46/F Revenue Tower 5 Gloucester Road Wanchai, Hong Kong



環境保護署總部

香港 灣仔告士打道五號 稅務大樓四十六樓

23 March 2010

Miss Becky YU Clerk to Panel on Environmental Affairs Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road Central, Hong Kong

(Fax: 2869 6794)

Dear Miss YU,

## Re: Subcommittee on Combating Fly-tipping Administration's response to follow-up actions

Thank you for your letter dated 3 February 2010 and I refer to the list of follow-up actions at Appendix I to your letter. Further to our response to (a) on 19 February 2010 (vide LC Paper CB(1)1184/09-10(02)), please find below the responses to items (b), (c) and (d).

2. With regard to (b), preparation and review of statutory plans has been an on-going task of the Planning Department (PlanD). In recent years, PlanD has deployed much of the resources to review the Outline Zoning Plans (OZPs) for the main urban areas and the new towns to incorporate building height and other development restrictions. In the rural New Territories outside Country Parks, there are about 12 000 hectares of land currently not covered by statutory plans, which also include large areas with restricted access, remote islands, mountain areas, etc. Notwithstanding the resource-demanding OZP reviews for the built-up areas, PlanD is in parallel preparing Development Permission Area Plans/OZPs for the rural areas currently not covered by statutory plans so as to step up statutory planning control and enforcement. PlanD plans to complete statutory plans for the Frontier Closed Area and 12 other locations in the rural New Territories in the coming two years covering some high-priority areas warranting statutory planning control, i.e. areas of conservation value,

subject to development pressure, relatively susceptible to unauthorised uses, etc. The preparation of statutory plans for the rest of the rural areas would be followed up progressively.

- 3. With regard to (c), the Lands Department (LandsD) will consider erecting fences and bollards at the ingress/egress point of illegal access roads constructed on Government land as considered appropriate to prevent vehicles from entering these roads for land filling activities. In appropriate cases where some portions of the illegal access road are constructed on government land, the LandsD may also block up the portions of illegal access road on Government land to deter such illegal activities. Under existing practice, LandsD may, in appropriate circumstances, consider granting temporary vehicular accesses for small house developments if there is a genuine need for such access subject to the condition that the small house grantees will close the accesses and reinstate the land after completion of their houses. LandsD will not normally approve the construction of permanent village roads by small house applicants or villagers unless such roads will serve the purpose of an emergency vehicular access which is supported by the Fire Services Department.
- 4. With regard to (d), the Hong Kong Police Force will, upon receipt of complaints on illegal land filling and fly-tipping activities, ensure there is no breach of peace; prevent and detect criminal offence; stop all illegal activities on the spot and make enquiry if appropriate; and request the relevant Government department(s) to take action on the spot or follow up as appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

(Kerr Li)

for Director of Environmental Protection