



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局
Education Bureau
Government Secretariat, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

本局檔號 Our Ref.: (37) in EDB(SB) 431/B/396/80 Pt. XIII

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14 February 2019

Clerk to Public Works Subcommittee
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms Doris LO)

Dear Ms LO,

Public Works Subcommittee
360EP – First 30-classroom primary school at Queen's Hill, Fanling
361EP – Second 30-classroom primary school at Queen's Hill, Fanling

Response to the enquiries from the Hon CHU Hoi-dick

In response to the written enquiries raised by Hon CHU Hoi-dick on 11 January 2019 on matters related to the captioned works projects, the consolidated reply, in consultation with relevant bureaux and government departments (B&Ds), is set out below:

1. Photovoltaic Panel on rooftop

The Steering Committee on Climate Change (SCCC) was established in 2016 to steer and coordinate the climate actions of various B&Ds subsequent to the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The promotion of adoption of renewable energy (RE) is one of the key mitigation measures

to combat climate change and SCCC decided that RE should be introduced on a larger scale.

In order to enhance RE adoption by the Government, the Environment Bureau (ENB) reviewed with relevant B&Ds the feasibility of upgrading the RE targets set out in the circular on Green Government Building, having regard to site constraints and the competition for roof space for other purposes such as green roof and plant rooms, as well as the possible implications on project costs. Subsequent to the review, SCCC agreed to enhance the targets of the use of RE in government buildings, including upgrading the target of electricity consumption for general power and lighting powered by RE in new schools and educational buildings from 1% to 1.5%, and allocating at least 10% of available roof space in new government buildings to incorporate RE technologies of appropriate scale. ENB will, having regard to the implementation of the aforementioned circular, review the content together with relevant departments from time to time.

On participation in the Feed-in Tariff (FiT) Scheme launched by power companies, the Education Bureau (EDB) has issued a Circular Memorandum (EDBCM No. 113/2018 on “Participation of Schools in Feed-in Tariff (FiT) Scheme”) (CM) to inform the schools of the points to note when participating in FiT Scheme. CM has clearly indicated that participation in FiT Scheme is a trading operation, while the related profits should be applied for the purposes directly benefiting the students of the schools such as organising educational activities that promote environmental protection and purchasing, repairing or maintaining RE facilities. Such instructions are in line with the relevant requirements as stipulated in the Education Regulations regarding the trading operations in schools. The relevant CM is at Appendix 1. As for the estimation of FiT income that a school may receive, the amount of which would depend on a number of factors, including the actual number and scale of RE systems installed, the specifications of the RE systems, site conditions which may affect RE generation, etc.. FiT income that individual participating schools may receive would vary.

On the question as to whether the Finance Committee (FC) can impose as a condition for approving the funding commitment for the two school

projects under the Capital Works Reserve Fund (CWRF) that the income to be derived from the FiT Scheme should only be used for environmental education relating to climate change or further investment in more RE facilities, according to Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau, it should be noted that the income in question does not form part of the funding commitment for the two school projects concerned under CWRF and hence should fall outside the scope of approval required from FC.

2. The environmental impact of the proposed Public Transport Terminus (PTT)

According to the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), currently there is no regulation controlling the air quality inside public transport interchanges in Hong Kong. For protection of public health, EPD issued a Practice Note (ProPECC PN 1/98) for the Control of Air Pollution in Semi-Confined Public Transport Interchanges (PTIs) in 1998 for reference by professionals and government departments. The Practice Note provides guidance on the design, ventilation systems, operation and air quality guidelines inside semi-confined PTIs. Professionals and government departments would take into account the Practice Note and the situation of individual PTIs when determining the specific requirements on the engineering design of the ventilation system, operation and maintenance of PTIs. The control and handling of the air quality inside PTIs rest with the PTI operators.

In view of the latest development in the Hong Kong Air Quality Objectives (AQOs), EPD has engaged the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2014 to review the Air Quality Guidelines inside PTIs taking into account the effect of air pollutants on public health and studying the data on exposure time of passengers inside PTIs. EPD has already started discussions with related government departments in 2016 on the results of the study, and has formed an inter-departmental Task Force in mid-2018 to review the current ProPECC PN 1/98. When reviewing and revising the content of the Practice Note, factors such as the related AQOs, views from the departments and professionals as well as the actual operating requirements of PTIs would be taken into consideration. According to EPD, the Task Force is in the process of drafting the revised Practice Note.

On AQOs, according to sections 7A(2), 7A (3) and 7A(6) of the Air Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 311) (APCO), the Secretary for the Environment (SEN) must carry out a review of the AQOs at least once in 5 years starting from 1 January 2014 (i.e. from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2018) and in each successive 5-year period. Section 7A(4) of APCO clearly stipulates that SEN should submit a report to the Advisory Council on the Environment as soon as reasonably practicable after a review is carried out. If AQOs are to be updated, APCO does not stipulate that the legislative procedures for such updating shall be completed within the 5-year period nor any time limit on the implementation of the updated AQOs.

In accordance with Appendix 3.1 of Chapter 9 of Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG), the relevant air quality requirements in HKPSG make reference to the prevailing statutory AQOs. The prevailing AQOs remain valid until the implementation of new AQOs.

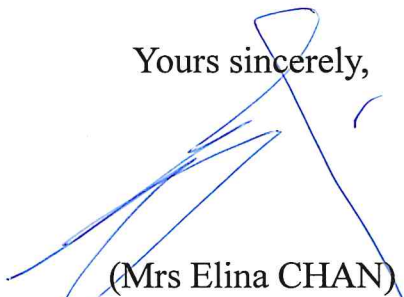
According to the information on Environmental Assessment Study for the Queen's Hill PTT provided by the Housing Department (HD), the PTT is a covered design with a roof and side walls. The vehicular ingress/egress of the PTT are located at the south, ventilation openings are located at the north and south respectively. The western side wall of PTT facing the schools does not have any ventilation opening. Please refer to Appendix 2 for relevant illustration and location of ventilation openings of the PTT.

The PTT is designed to make use of natural ventilation as far as possible. Two ventilation openings to the north and south, with the direction of which designed to align with the prevailing wind directions, will be provided on the roof for natural air intake and circulation to the PTT underneath so as to maximise natural ventilation. Besides, the mechanical ventilation system for the PTT is designed in accordance with the guidelines stipulated under the Professional Persons Environmental Consultative Committee Practice Note PN 1/98 "Control of Air Pollution in Semi-Confined Public Transport Interchanges" to ensure adequate ventilation.

HD has also considered appropriate noise mitigation measures as stipulated in HKPSG. It includes adopting covered design to avoid line of sights of the PTT to the adjacent area with noise sensitive uses. For the ventilation openings at the north and south sides of the PTT, appropriate mitigation installations will be provided to ensure compliance with relevant noise requirements.

Therefore, the PTT will not impose negative impact on the environment of the two proposed primary schools at Queen's Hill, Fanling.

Yours sincerely,



(Mrs Elina CHAN)
for Secretary for Education

c.c.

Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury
(Attn: Ms KWONG Sin-hang, Terri)

Secretary for Environment Bureau
(Attn: Ms CHAN Sheung-man, Ellen)

Director of Environmental Protection
(Attn: Mr TANG Ho-him, Matthew)

Director of Architectural Services
(Attn: Mr LI Ka-lun)

Director of Housing
(Attn: Mr KWAN Tai-ming, Terence)

To : Heads of all kindergartens, primary and secondary schools (excluding government schools)

Date : 20 August 2018

SUMMARY

DETAILS

3. In line with the Government's environmental policy, the Environment Bureau and the EDB encourage schools to install RE systems on the school premises subject to the conditions that the activities and safety of students will not be jeopardized by such installation. Secondary and primary schools as well as kindergartens (except government schools) may participate in the FiT Scheme having regard to their individual circumstances. It is hoped that schools will make the best use of the RE systems installed to promote environmental education in schools when participating in the FiT Scheme. When installing RE facilities and participating in the FiT Scheme, schools should take note of the following:

RE Facilities

- (i) All schools may purchase, install, replace, repair or maintain RE facilities, and pay for the other recurrent costs of these facilities, if any, through the Environment and Conservation Fund, donations or sponsorships. In addition, aided schools and caput schools may use the funds in the General Funds Account to pay for the

¹ Including kindergartens, kindergarten-cum-child care centres and schools with kindergarten classes.

relevant expenses. Schools charging tuition fees² are not allowed to use the fee income directly for the relevant purposes. Under no circumstances should schools be allowed to purchase, install, replace, repair or maintain the RE facilities, and pay for the other recurrent costs of these facilities, if any, through loan arrangements or EDB subsidies.

- (ii) All schools should submit applications to the EDB for prior approval in accordance with the prevailing requirements³ if any structural alterations are involved in the installation of RE facilities in their school premises.
- (iii) When purchasing, installing, replacing or carrying out repair and maintenance works on RE facilities, schools should refer to the EDB's prevailing requirements to select suppliers/ contractors through competitive tender/ quotation exercises. Schools should not solicit or accept any donations or advantages in any form from suppliers/ contractors.

Participation in the FiT Scheme

- (iv) Schools should make good use of the RE systems installed to improve students' environmental knowledge through teaching and learning activities or after-school activities in schools.
- (v) As the participation in the FiT Scheme is a trading operation, aided schools, caput schools and DSS schools should follow the relevant requirements laid down in the EDB Circular No. 10/2016 on "Trading Operations in Schools". Schools without Incorporated Management Committee (IMC) are required to seek prior permission in writing from the Permanent Secretary for Education. While schools should note that the profit limit for trading operations does not apply to the FiT Scheme, the related profits should be applied for the purposes directly benefiting the students of the schools such as organising educational activities that promote environmental protection and purchasing, repairing or maintaining RE facilities.
- (vi) Schools wishing to participate in the FiT Scheme should put up relevant proposals to the School Management Committee (SMC)/ IMC for approval.
- (vii) Schools are not allowed to participate in the FiT Scheme by outsourcing, hiring out accommodation to private companies on a long-term basis, sharing profits with private companies, etc.
- (viii) Schools should pay attention to the grid connection arrangements and legislative requirements in relation to the installation of RE systems.
- (ix) When making applications to the power companies, schools should also submit the

² Including Direct Subsidy Scheme (DSS) schools, kindergartens and private schools such as international schools and Private Independent Schools (PISs).

³ As stipulated in section 10(a) of the Education Regulations (Cap. 279A), except with the consent in writing of the Permanent Secretary there shall not be made any structural alterations to the school premises.

Notification Form attached to this CM⁴ to the EDB. Upon notification of the application results, schools should fax the approval or rejection letter issued by the power companies to the School Administration 4 Section of the EDB (with a copy to the respective Senior School Development Officer/ Senior Services Officer of the school) as soon as possible for record purposes.

Accounting Arrangements

- (x) All schools should keep a separate ledger for the income and expenditure of the FiT Scheme.
- (xi) All types of schools should reflect the income and expenditure of the FiT Scheme, as recorded in the separate ledger, in the audited accounts⁵ in accordance with the EDB's requirements. Aided schools and caput schools should furnish their income and expenditure in the General Funds Account to reflect the income and expenditure of the FiT Scheme. DSS schools, kindergartens joining the Kindergarten Education Scheme⁶ as well as international schools and Private Independent Schools in receipt of government subvention, should disclose the income and expenditure of the FiT Scheme in the relevant Statement/ Note of the audited accounts. Private schools not required to prepare audited accounts in the prescribed formats of the EDB should reflect the relevant income and expenditure in the audited accounts/ financial statements according to the prevailing accounting standards.
- (xii) All types of schools should use the relevant income from the FiT Scheme or funds from appropriate sources as stated in paragraph 3(i) above to pay for the necessary expenses (e.g. the costs of grid connection and repair/ maintenance of RE facilities)⁷ or any loss.
- (xiii) Aided schools and caput schools should credit the profit of the FiT Scheme, if any, to the General Funds Account. Schools charging tuition fees can accumulate the profit in the non-government fund account/ school funds account to be used for the purposes directly benefiting the students of the schools. Schools are not allowed to distribute the income arising from the FiT Scheme to third parties in any forms, including donations or loans.

⁴ If schools have already submitted applications to the power companies before this CM is issued, they should submit the Notification Form attached to this CM to the EDB as soon as possible.

⁵ Aided schools, caput schools, DSS schools and kindergartens joining the Kindergarten Education Scheme, as well as international schools and PISs in receipt of government subvention, should reflect the income and expenditure in the separate ledger of the FiT Scheme in the 2018/19 school year and onwards. Schools will be notified of the details of the preparation of the audited accounts separately.

⁶ Including kindergartens having participated in the Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme or the new Kindergarten Education Scheme and still having students eligible for the subsidies from the relevant schemes.

⁷ Aided schools with an IMC may use the surplus of the Expanded Operating Expenses Block Grant to top up no more than (i) 50% of the recurrent cost arising from government-funded projects; and (ii) 25% of the recurrent cost arising from furniture, equipment and other facilities or educational service acquired through private donations or other fund-raising schemes.

- (xiv) Schools charging tuition fees are not allowed to increase tuition fees for the reason of participating in the FiT Scheme. Relevant expenditure will not be considered in the assessment of any applications for fees adjustment.

4. Through the EDB Circular No. 4/2017 on “Environmental Policy and Energy Saving Measures in Schools”, the EDB urges all schools to formulate and put in place their school-based environmental policy, which should be endorsed by the SMC/ IMC of schools and are expected to be reported regularly at the SMC/ IMC meetings for ongoing review and sustainable development. If participating in the FiT Scheme, schools may support the development of RE in complement with their school-based environmental policy. To further promote environmental education, schools are encouraged to proactively display to the community and stakeholders the results of implementing their school-based environmental policy via, for example, sharing details and achievements of their participation in the FiT Scheme and educational activities held in relation to environmental protection on the school websites.

ENQUIRY

5. For enquiries on participation in the FiT Scheme, please contact the following institutions/ officers:

Enquiry details	Contact points
Details of the FiT Scheme from the power companies	CLP Tel. : 2678 0322 Email Address: csd@clp.com.hk HKE Tel. : 2843 3228 Email Address : RE@hkelectric.com
Technical issues related to installations of RE facilities	Electrical and Mechanical Services Department A webpage of FiT on the Hong Kong Renewable Energy (HKRE) Net http://re.emsd.gov.hk/eindex.html Enquiry Hotline : 6395 2930 Email Address : eepublic@emsd.gov.hk
Arrangements for schools' participation in the FiT Scheme	School Administration 4 Section of the EDB Tel. : 3509 7459
Other enquiries (e.g. works involving structural alterations)	Respective Senior School Development Officers of the Regional Education Offices or Senior Services Officers of the Joint Office for Kindergartens and Child Care Centres of the EDB

Ms SO Yuen-yi
for Secretary for Education

c. c. Heads of government schools and all sections – for information

Participation of Schools in Feed-in Tariff (FiT) Scheme

Notification Form

To: Senior Education Officer (School Administration)⁴
School Administration 4 Section
Education Bureau (EDB)
5/F., East Wing, Central Government Offices
2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong
[Fax : 2117 9120]

We have decided to participate in the FiT Scheme implemented by CLP Power Hong Kong Limited/ The Hongkong Electric Company, Limited*, with an application submitted on _____ (DD/MM/YYYY).

Upon notification of the application result from the power company, we will fax the approval letter or rejection letter issued by the power company to the School Administration 4 Section of the EDB (with a copy to the respective Senior School Development Officer/ Senior Services Officer) for record purposes. We are also aware that if the installation of renewable energy facilities involves any structural alterations to the school premises, we will submit an application to the EDB according to the prevailing requirements and no installation works shall be carried out without prior approval.

Signed by: _____
(Principal/ Supervisor*)

Name: _____

Name of School: _____

Date: _____

(*Please delete as appropriate)

c.c.: _____ District (i.e. respective district) Senior School Development Officer/
Senior Services Officer

Queen's Hill Public Transport Terminus 皇后山公共運輸總站

Appendix 2 附件二

