

(Translation)

(Letterhead of the N.W. Area Taxi Drivers & Operators Association)

29 October 1998

Mr Andy Lau
Clerk to the LegCo Panel on Transport

Dear Mr Lau

Views on the proposal to introduce liquefied petroleum gas taxis

In order to achieve the effectiveness of introducing liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) taxis, the Association considers that the implementation of a fleet system (grouping of owners with taxi licences to form a company with share distributions based on the number of licences owned for the purpose of applying for a franchise) will have the following advantages:

1. As the company will have a large demand for vehicles, it will have a strong bargaining power to negotiate good prices with vehicle manufacturers.
2. With the franchise, the tax on liquefied petroleum gas would be exempted, resulting in the reduction of cost.
3. With a large number of vehicles in the fleet, the company can afford establishing an in-house maintenance division, which would save both time and cost. This would also bring about the benefit of better vehicle safety.
4. Standardized training provided for drivers to familiarize them with the operation of LPG taxis will help enhancing the safety on the road and allay the anxiety of the public.

The above-mentioned four points exemplify my personal views on the promotion of LPG taxis. It is my wish that various means in promoting LPG taxis will be discussed in the Legislative Council.

Chairman, N.W. Area Taxi Drivers & Operators Association

(Wong Wing-chung)

(Handwritten remarks: I will attend the joint meeting and will make an oral presentation. I will also be driving my LPG taxi to the Legco. Please arrange a parking space for me. Interested parties may personally experience the merits of LPG taxis after the meeting.)