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Our Ref. ERD/DER/LEC/01

11 March 2002

Mrs. Mary Tang
for Clerk to Bills Committee
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building

By Fax and By Post
Fax No. 28696794

8 Jackson Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Sir,

Bills Committee on
Import and Export (Electronic Transactions) Bill 2001

Meeting on 22 March 2002

First of all, I would like to confirm that I will represent KCRC at the Bills Committee, in my capacity as General Manager, Freight.

The Corporation welcomes the introduction of measures such as those outlined in the Bill to facilitate the processing of trade related documentation.

The Corporation has participated in the conduct of trial runs of the EMAN system and has found it to be satisfactory to date.

On a practical note, the Corporation would like clarification of the capacity of the system versus the likely volume of transactions it is expected to handle, as well as the contingency plans to cope with any failure of the system for any reason.

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The Corporation would, of course, like all current and future improvements in trade and customs procedures and documentation to be applicable to rail as well as other modes of transport.

The Corporation notes that, currently, cargo manifests can be submitted free of charge in paper form but that it would appear that, in future, Tradelink will charge users. The Corporation is concerned both about the principle of charging and the possible levels of the initial and future charges and how these will be set and controlled.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Petersen
General Manager, Freight

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