

By Fax: 2536 9732

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25 April 2003

Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works  
(Attn: Mr Keith KWOK Ka-keung)  
Environment, Transport and Works Bureau  
11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Murray Building  
Garden Road  
Hong Kong

Dear Mr KWOK,

**Bills Committee on  
Foreshore, Sea-bed and Roads (Amendment) Bill 2003**

**Second meeting on 28 April 2003**

Hon Mrs Selina CHOW, Chairman of the Bills Committee, has noted your letter of today's date and directed me to reply on her behalf.

The Chairman notes that the Administration's current thinking is to concentrate on the speeding up of the administrative procedures in handling public objections and expediting other pre-construction activities, and not to proceed with the legislative amendments in the near future. To facilitate the Bills Committee's consideration on the way forward, the Chairman considers it essential for the Administration to clarify on the meaning of the phrase "*not to proceed with the legislative amendments in the near future*" and to make clear its proposal.

As directed by the Chairman, the Administration is requested to confirm in writing whether it is proposing the Bills Committee to hold in abeyance the consideration of the Bill, or it is proposing that the Bills Committee be dissolved. If the Administration is proposing the second option, the Administration is requested to confirm in writing that it will not seek to resume the Second Reading debate on the Foreshore, Sea-bed and Roads (Amendment) Bill 2003 within the current term of the Legislative Council.

I should be grateful if you would let me have the Administration's written response (in both Chinese and English) **by 10:30 am tomorrow** for timely circulation to the Chairman and members of the Bills Committee before the meeting on 28 April 2003. Please forward the soft copy of the written response to Ms May LEUNG at [mleung@legco.gov.hk](mailto:mleung@legco.gov.hk).

In line with our usual practice, all papers provided to the Bills Committee will also be made available to members of the public and the media observing the meeting, and uploaded to the Web Site of the Legislative Council, unless you advise otherwise.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Salumi CHAN)  
Clerk to Bills Committee

c.c. Hon Mrs Selina CHOW, GBS, JP (Chairman of the Bills Committee)