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Fax transmission

To	Ms. Alice Au	From	Mr. M.Y. Poon
	Clerk to Bills Committee	Ref	NRD/CPP/C8/1 &
	Legislative Council Secretariat		NRD/CPP/PD2/S16
Tel No	2509 4189	Tel No	2688 1400
Fax No	2121 0420	Fax No	2688 0460
Date	23 June 2003	Total Pages	3 (inclusive)
Subject	Bills Committee on Construction Workers Registration Bill		

Dear Ms. Au,

Thank you for your fax of 19 June 2003.

Please be advised that we are in support of the Construction Workers Registration Bill with a view to regulating and enhancing the quality of construction workers.

As per our tele-conversation on 20 June 2003, we will not attend the meeting to be held on 24 June 2003 in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building.

As for the registration of “overhead linesman”, Environment, Transport and Works Bureau has kindly responded to our enquiries via the e-mail of 20 June 2003, a copy of which is enclosed for your information. As most of our existing overhead linesmen are NOT holders of the Certificate of Completion under the Apprenticeship Ordinance (Cap 47) but have more than 10 years practical experience, we would like to suggest, for your kind consideration, our existing overhead linesmen be exempted for the 1st batch of registration from the qualification requirement as stipulated in Schedule 1 to the Bill (i.e. the said Certificate of Completion).

Before the offer of “overhead linesman” trade test by CITA or VTC, we would like to suggest the certificates issued by KCRC for overhead linesmen after the 1st

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bulk registration be recognized for the purpose of registration under the Bill. Of course, our in-house overhead linesmen training and qualification system will be submitted, if required, to Government or concerned body for formal recognition.

Thank you for your attention.

(M.Y. Poon)
Project Planning Engineer

c.c. Mr. S.Y. Lam (Environment, Transport & Works Bureau) fax: 2521 9682

From: sy.lam@etwb.gov.hk [mailto:sy.lam@etwb.gov.hk]
Sent: Friday, June 20, 2003 2:50 PM
To: Poon Ming Yau
Cc: gorwf.cho@etwb.gov.hk
Subject: Re: Construction Workers Registration Bill: Overhead Linesman

Dear Mr. Poon,

Thanks for your enquiry.

As discussed, similar issues have been raised by members of the Joint Utilities Policy Group. Please find our responses below:

(1) Will the certificates issued by KCRC for existing non-apprenticed KCRC "Overhead Linesman", which are NOT Certificate of Completion under the Apprenticeship Ordinance (Cap 47), be recognised for the purpose of registration;

As far as we know, there are no trade tests offered by Construction Industry Training Authority (CITA) or Vocational Training Council (VTC) for the "Overhead Linesman" trade. As such, trade test certificate for this trade is not included in Schedule 1 of the Bill as a qualification. However, provisions are included in clauses 37(2)(b), (3)(b) and (6)(b) for the Registrar to accept, in consultation with the Qualifications Committee, qualifications which are considered equivalent.

If KCRC wishes to have your training and qualification system for this trade recognized for the purpose of registration under this Bill, this could be pursued.

(2) Will the same or reciprocal arrangement in (1) be applied to other Specified Bodies in the Schedule 2 to the Bill such as MTRCL, HK Tramways, CLP, HKE, etc, so that KCRC or contractors may hire overhead linesmen of these bodies holding non-apprenticed certificates with registration eligibility;

The arrangement mentioned in (1) applies to other bodies. You may hire overhead linesmen from other bodies, if their overhead linesmen hold the qualification or equivalent for registration.

(3) Will there be any arrangement to continue the import of overhead linesmen.

The import of overhead linesmen does not fall within the scope of this Bill. However, if the proposed Registration is in place, imported workers are required to obtain registration, same as other construction workers.

Regards,
S.Y. Lam

Poon Ming Yau
<mypoon@krc.com> To: "sy.lam@wb.gov.hk" <sy.lam@wb.gov.hk>
cc:
20/06/2003 11:49 AM Subject: Construction Workers Registration Bill:
Overhead Linesman
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Receipt