

香港特別行政區政府

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

政府總部
環境運輸及工務局
香港花園道三號
花旗銀行大廈十樓



Environment, Transport and
Works Bureau
Government Secretariat
10/F., Citibank Tower,
3 Garden Road, Hong Kong

本局檔號 Our Ref.

來函檔號 Your Ref.

Tel No.:(852) 2136 3305

Fax No.:(852) 2136 3321

18 June 2004

Miss Becky YU
Clerk to Panel
Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs
Legislative Council Secretariat
3/F, Citibank Tower
Hong Kong.

Dear Miss YU,

LegCo Panel on Environmental Affairs

**Retrofitting Pre-Euro Long Idling Diesel Heavy Vehicles
with Emission Reduction Devices**

At the meeting of the Panel on 24 May 2004 at which the above was discussed, some members suggested that the Administration should consider providing, in addition to the emission reduction devices, the alternative of a cash grant that is equal to the cost of an emission reduction device to those vehicle owners eligible for the retrofit programme but who would like to replace their vehicles with new ones that meet the prevailing emission requirement instead of participating in the retrofit programme. We have carefully considered the suggestion, but regret that we are unable to provide the alternative of a cash grant.

The cost of an emission reduction device is estimated to be between \$10,000 and \$30,000, depending on the engine size of the vehicle to be retrofitted. The costs of new vehicles in the concerned category range between \$250,000 and \$1,300,000. As the new vehicles are significantly more expensive than the devices, we consider that such a cash grant would not serve as an effective incentive to encourage the vehicle owners to

- 2 -

replace their vehicles with new ones. For vehicle owners who would be replacing their vehicles that have come to the end of their service life, we consider that it would be inappropriate to use public funds to sponsor the replacement. We hope that members of the Panel will understand our stance on the matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Thomas Chow', written in a cursive style.

(Thomas Chow)
for Secretary for the Environment,
Transport and Works