

Tel No. : (852) 2973 8148  
Fax No.: (852) 2136 3281  
Our ref.: HWF(F) 3/4/4/1 Pt. 25

20 July 2005

The Hon Mr LI Wah-ming  
The Chairman of the  
LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road, Central, Hong Kong  
(Fax: 2509 0775)

Dear Mr Li,

**Prohibition of Abstraction of Seawater from Specified Areas**

At the Panel meeting held on 15 April 2005, Members were consulted on the proposed prohibition of abstraction of seawater from specified areas. The Administration agreed to provide the test results of the samples taken by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department from well water in Lau Fau Shan in 2004.

In August 2004, samples of well water before filtration and disinfection were collected from 25 food premises selling live seafood in Lau Fau Shan for *E. coli* and *Vibrio cholerae* testing. In respect of five dissatisfactory samples, follow-up samples were taken subsequent to cleansing of the wells concerned. The final test results showed that the amount of *E. coli* was below the trigger level at less than 180 per 100 ml and that no *Vibrio cholerae* was detected.

Yours sincerely,

( Vincent Liu )  
for Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food