



香港特別行政區政府 機電工程署  
香港九龍啟成街3號

Electrical and Mechanical Services Department  
Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
3 Kai Shing Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong  
www.emsd.gov.hk

Our reference 本署檔號: (18) in GS0/GU/84 Pt. VI

Telephone 電話號碼: (852) 2808 3645

Your reference 來函檔號:

Facsimile 圖文傳真: (852) 2157 0107

6 July 2006

Clerk to LegCo Panel on Economic Services  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Council Business Division 1  
3/F., Citibank Tower  
3 Garden Road, Hong Kong  
(Attn : Mr Andy Lau)

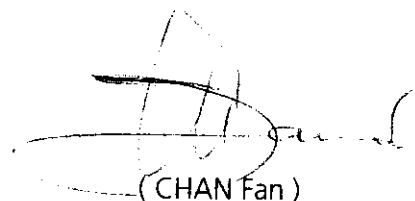
Dear Mr Lau,

**Panel on Economic Services Meeting on 22 May 2006  
Response to Question**

At the Panel on Economic Services meeting of 22 May 2006, the Hon Ronny Tong requested the Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services to advise whether there was any legislation governing the unsealed underground openings leading to the voids underneath buildings, as in the case of Wai King Building.

We consulted the Buildings Department on this subject, and were advised that there are no provisions under the Buildings Ordinance which explicitly prohibit underground openings for passage of utilities. In general, details of openings through structural elements should be submitted for approval under the Buildings Ordinance unless such openings shall not affect the structure of the building, which are considered as exempted building works. Each case should therefore be assessed on its own merits. For the case of Wai King Building, in view of the intended function of the underground beam and the configuration of the opening relative to the beam size, details of the beam opening are not required for approval.

Yours sincerely,



(CHAN Fan)

for Director of Electrical & Mechanical Services

cc Secretary for Economic Development and Labour (Attn : Mr Howard LEE)