Bills Committee on Energy Efficiency (Labelling of Products) Bill 2007

The Administration's response to Action Items raised at the Bills Committee meeting on 17 January 2008

Reason for granting exemption

In light of the comments of the Bills Committee, we will propose amendments to clause 49(1)(b) of the Bill to require the Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (the Director) to set out the reason for exemption.

Specified forms

2. In light of the comments of the Bills Committee, we will propose amendments to clause 51 of the Bill to make it clear that specified forms will also be made available through other means as the Director considers appropriate.

Legislative process for making regulations and amending Schedules

3. The regulations and amendments to Schedules made by the Secretary for the Environment under clauses 48 and 52 are subsidiary legislation, and in accordance with section 34 of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance (Cap.1), are subject to negative vetting by the Legislative Council. In light of the comments of the Bills Committee, we propose to require that amendments to Part 1 of Schedule 1 for addition of new prescribed products be subject to positive vetting.

Action items 1 - 3

4. We shall provide our response to items 1- 3 of the list of follow-up actions to the Bills Committee at the next meeting.

Environment Bureau Electrical and Mechanical Services Department January 2008