

LS/B/6/07-08

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By Fax (2511 3658) and By Post

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Mr Alfred Lee
Assistant Director (Waste Management Policy)
Environmental Protection Department
46/F, Revenue Tower
5 Gloucester Road
Wan Chai
Hong Kong

Dear Mr Lee,

Product Eco-responsibility Bill

I refer to paragraphs 11 and 12 of the LegCo Brief on the Product Eco-responsibility Bill (EP 381/11/03).

The Bill is a piece of "umbrella" legislation which seeks to provide a legal framework for introducing producer responsibility scheme ("PRS") in respect of individual types of products "when the opportunity is ripe". According to the Administration, "overseas experience suggests that a piece of 'umbrella' legislation would prompt the relevant trade to introduce voluntary waste reduction and recycling programmes which, if implemented successfully, may obviate the need for or at least relieve the immediate pressure to introduce mandatory PRS's".

I wonder if the Administration could assist the Bills Committee with the following –

- (a) To advise the Bills Committee the overseas jurisdictions where there are such "umbrella" legislation in place;
- (b) to provide copy of those umbrella legislation for the Bills Committee's reference; and
- (c) to provide examples of Hong Kong legislation in which the "umbrella" legislation approach is adopted.

I look forward to your reply in bilingual form before 22 January 2008.

Yours sincerely,

Kitty Cheng
Assistant Legal Adviser

cc. LA
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