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我們矢志努力不懈，提供盡善盡美的土地行政服務。
We strive to achieve excellence in land administration.

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26 June 2009

Miss Becky YU
Clerk to Panel on Environmental Affairs
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong

CB(1) 2086/08-09(02)

Dear Miss YU,

Panel on Environmental Affairs
Subcommittee on Combating Fly-tipping
Follow-up to meeting on 15 June 2009

I write in response to a follow-up question arising from the subject meeting on 15 June 2009 requesting advice on the existing policies on provision, maintenance and management of roads, particularly connecting roads/paths to main roads, in rural areas.

Apart from emergency vehicular accesses which are constructed by applicants as part of the village house development process, residents in rural villages may apply to District Officers (DOs) for provision of roads including tracks and footpaths. DOs will consider the applications having regard to the local need and the ambit of Home Affairs Department's (HAD) minor works programmes. Such roads constructed under HAD's minor works programmes are generally under the maintenance of DOs. However, there are other rural roads not provided by Government but which have long existed for use by rural residents. DOs may also consider upgrading these rural roads or carrying out ad hoc repairs under HAD's minor works programmes. District Lands Officers (DLOs) will manage the rural roads which are located on unallocated Government land. Transport Department will

impose any appropriate traffic control measures on the rural roads, as required, in particular for those connected to main roads under the management and maintenance of Transport Department.

For newly created rural roads without Government's authorization, DLOs would, depending on the circumstances and in consultation with DOs and other relevant Government departments, consider taking land control action in order to prevent the proliferation of rural roads being provided without prior approval. However, DLOs, as a practical measure and having regard to the actual individual circumstances, may consider allowing for continued use of individual existing village roads in recognition of the fact that many village roads had been built and used by local villagers for lengthy periods, have the general support of the local community and are considered acceptable by relevant Government departments. Indeed the DOs may, depending on individual circumstances, consider improving such village roads upon villagers' request if DLOs have decided to allow their continued existence and use.

Yours sincerely,



(G. M. Ross)
for Director of Lands

c.c.	DO/YL	(Attn : Mr. T.K. YEUNG)
	CTE(NTW)	(Attn : Mr. Y.M. LEE)
	DLO/YL	(Attn : Mr. Albert CHEUNG)
	DEP	(Attn : Mr. Kerr LI)