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12 January 2011

CB(1) 1061/10-11(01)

Council Business Division 1 Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road, Central (Attn: Miss Becky YU)

Dear Becky,

Panel on Environmental Affairs Follow-up to meeting on 22 Nov 2010 CB(1) 460/10-11(03)

During the discussion on the Development of EcoPark in the Panel meeting on 22 November 2010, Members requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the following: -

- (a) information on short-term tenancies being leased to the recycling industry;
- (b) information on the setting of rents for lots in EcoPark, with particular reference to the savings in the cost of treatment and disposal of waste; and
- (c) record of unused recyclable materials left by EcoPark tenants which had to be disposed of at landfills.

The requested information is provided below for Members' reference -

Short Term Tenancy (STT) sites leased to the recycling industry

In addition to the long term land provided in EcoPark, the Administration is leasing STT sites to the recycling industry to handle specified types of waste materials. There are currently 33 sites, with a total area of 5.8 ha, being leased to the local recycling industry to process various types of waste including metals, plastics, paper and wood.

Setting of rents for lots in EcoPark

The rents of EcoPark Phase 1 lots were determined through an open tendering system in which all tenderers are required to provide in their tender submissions their proposed rents together with technical details for tender assessment. The lots were awarded to the tenderers with the highest combined technical and rent scores in the tender assessments. The rents should therefore reflect the general affordability of the market. The same open tendering approach will be adopted for leasing the Phase 2 lots.

The amount of residual waste from EcoPark tenants

Depending on the type and quality of waste materials and nature of recycling activities, recycling of waste materials might generate a small amount of residual waste which cannot be further recycled and has to be disposed of. For the recycling plants in EcoPark during the initial commissioning and operation period from March to November 2010, the three recycling plants for waste metal, waste wood and waste computer equipment did not generate any residual waste while the others for used cooking oil and waste plastic generated about 7% to 23% of residual waste. The total residual waste generated during the same period amounts to only about 3% of the total throughput.

We should be grateful if you would distribute this letter to EA Panel Members.

Yours faithfully

(Ellen Chan)

Xllenlha)

Assistant Director of Environmental Protection
(Environmental Infrastructure)