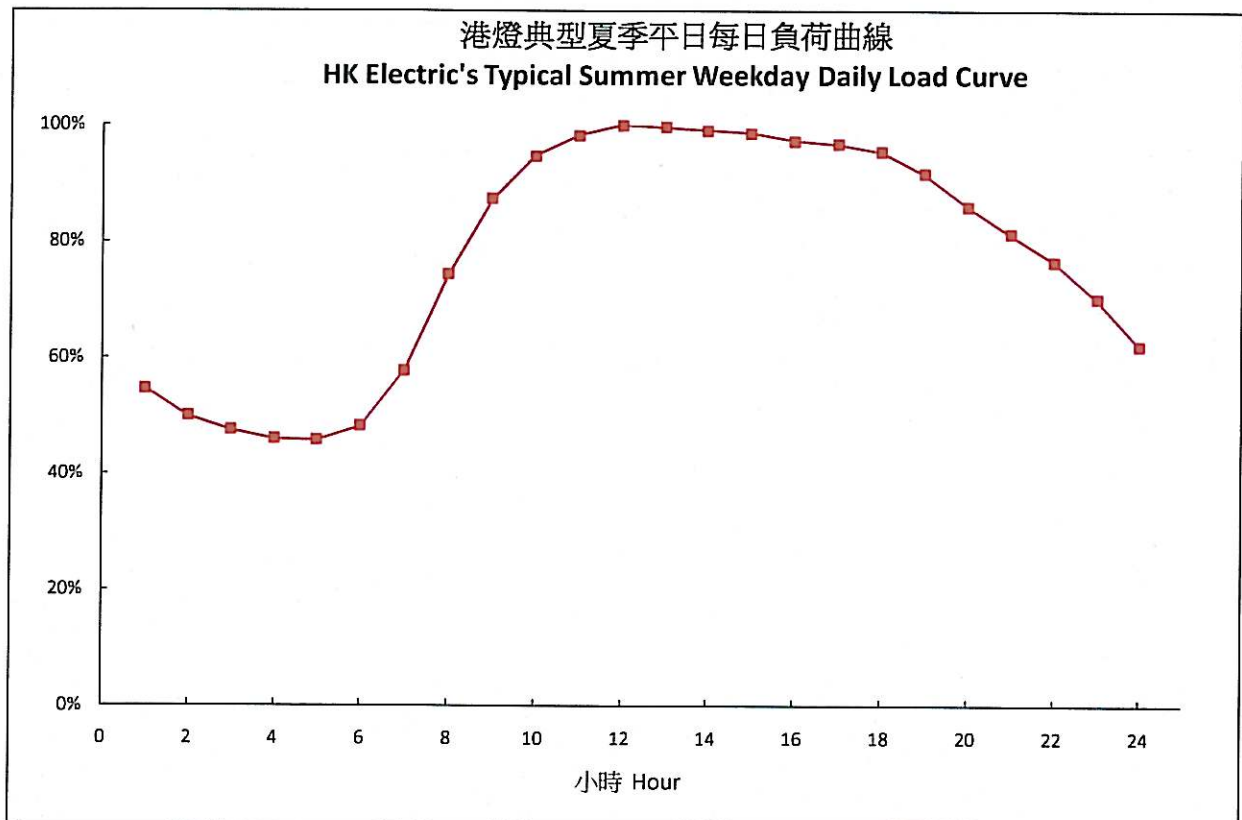


**HK Electric's Reply to Follow-up to Special Meeting on 27 February 2012**

**Question:** Provide graphs plotting the annual trend of electricity consumption on a monthly basis, showing the monthly average, the monthly high and the monthly low consumption

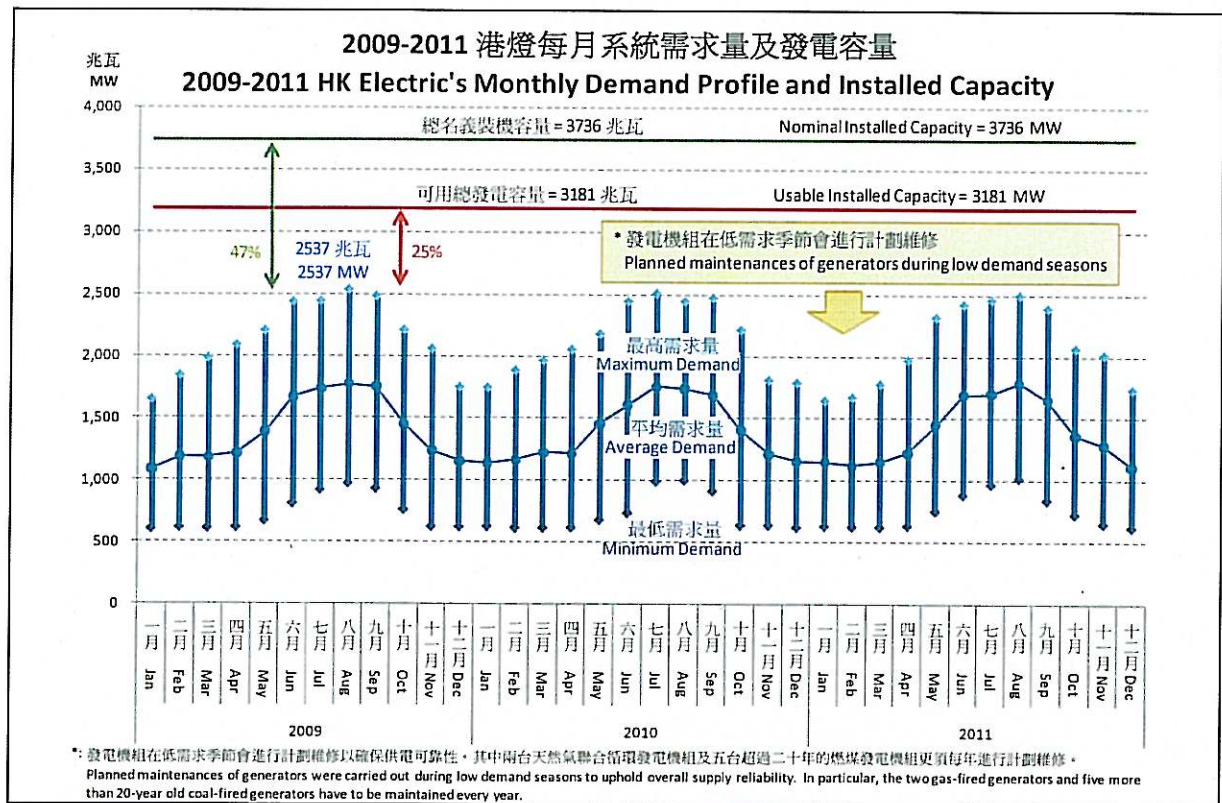
**Reply:** Graphs 1 and 2 show HK Electric's typical summer weekday daily load curve and the maximum, average and minimum monthly demand for 2009 to 2011 respectively.



Graph 1: HK Electric's Typical Summer Weekday Daily Load Curve

As Hong Kong is located in the subtropical region, electricity consumption peaks in summer. Furthermore, with the commercial consumption accounting for around 75% of the total electricity consumption on the Hong Kong Island, high electricity consumption in summer extends for about ten hours during the daytime. With the progressive slowing down of commercial activities after office hours, HK Electric's night system demand is much lower than that in daytime.

## HK Electric's Reply to Follow-up to Special Meeting on 27 February 2012



Graph 2: 2009-2011 HK Electric's Monthly Demand Profile and Installed Capacity

The required total installed capacity is determined by the system maximum demand of the year which usually occurs in the June – September period. If the total installed capacity is insufficient, it could not meet the system maximum demand and may result in supply tripping and large areas of power loss. It is a general practice for the electricity industry to calculate the reserve margin based on the system maximum demand of the year. While the electricity demand is lower in the non-peak months, opportunity is usually taken to carry out regular maintenance of generators in these months to maintain the overall supply reliability. In particular, it is worth noting that the two gas-fired generators and the five 20-plus year old coal-fired generators in the HK Electric system have to be stopped for maintenance every year.