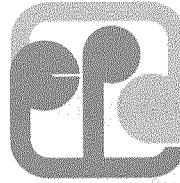


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來函檔號  
Your Ref:  
電話  
Tel. No.: 2594 6301  
圖文傳真  
Fax. No.: 2827 8040  
電子郵件  
Email: kwfong@epd.gov.hk

**Environmental Protection Department**

Revenue Tower Office  
33/F, Revenue Tower,  
5 Gloucester Road,  
Wan Chai, Hong Kong.



環境保護署  
稅務大樓辦事處  
香港灣仔  
告士打道五號  
稅務大樓三十三樓

2 April 2015

Council Business Division 1  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong  
(Attn.: Ms Shirley CHAN)

Dear Ms CHAN,

**Panel on Environment Affairs meeting on 23 March 2015**

**2015-16 Budget-related Initiatives of Environmental Protection**

The captioned meeting asked the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) to provide supplementary information for the strengthened emission control programme for petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles, which was launched on 1 September 2014.

Under the control programme, EPD deploys roadside remote sensing equipment to screen out petrol and LPG vehicles that emit excessively. We will issue emission testing notices (ETNs) to the vehicles' owners requiring their vehicles to pass a dynamometer emission test at a designated vehicle emission testing centre within 12 working days to ensure the excessive emission problem is rectified, failing which will lead to cancellation of the licences of the vehicles by the Transport Department.

Below is the supplementary information requested by the Panel –

- (a) a breakdown of the respective numbers and types of the 1 700 vehicles whose owners have received emission testing notices issued by EPD:

From Sept 2014 to end of February 2015

Vehicle Class	Number of Emission Testing Notices Issued	Average Age of Vehicles Concerned <sup>1</sup> (Years)
Taxi	953	12
Private Car	678	12
Light Bus	121	10
Light Goods Vehicle	8	11
Total: 1 760		

Note 1: Most vehicles having excessive emissions were older ones, whose engines worn-out are more serious than younger ones.

- (b) the respective numbers of petrol and liquefied petroleum gas taxis and light buses, which were subsidized to replace catalytic converters and oxygen sensors and issued with ETNs:

To keep excessive emissions at bay, one of the key steps is for owners of petrol/LPG vehicles to replace timely their vehicles' catalytic converters and oxygen sensors. It is also important to properly maintain combustion-related engine components (such as mixer, vapourizer, exhaust gas recirculation valves etc.). From September 2014 to end of February 2015, we checked under the control programme the emissions of 16 638 petrol and LPG taxis and 1 186 LPG public light buses. Among them, 528 LPG taxis and 96 LPG public light buses which had replaced their catalytic converters and oxygen sensors with our subsidy, were found to have excessive emission and issued with ETNs. Most of these vehicles need to conduct thorough repair of the engine components in order to pass the dynamometer-based emission test.

- (c) a breakdown of the numbers and types of the vehicles of which licences have been cancelled due to their failure to pass the dynamometer-based emission test:

From Sept 2014 to end of February 2015

Vehicle Class	Vehicle Licences Cancelled		Vehicles Scrapped by Owners	
	Number	Average Age of Vehicles (Years)	Number	Average Age of Vehicles (Years)
Taxi	1	14	41	13.1
Private Car	42	14.2	44	14.4
Light Goods Vehicle	1	14	-	-
	Total: 44		Total: 85	

Note: Some owners more likely will scrap their vehicles with excessive emissions instead of spending a considerable amount of money to repair the malfunction parts of these old vehicles.

Should you have any query, please contact our Principal Environmental Protection Officer, Mr. K. W. Fong.

Yours sincerely,



(FONG Kin-wa)

for Director of Environmental Protection

c.c. CEO(CBD)/EPD – Miss Evelyn LEUNG