

本署檔號

Our Ref: (48) in EP11/V/1/102/8 Part 3 **Environmental Protection Department**

來函檔號  
Your Ref:

電話

Tel. No.: 2594 6401

圖文傳真

Fax. No.: 2827 8040

電子郵件

Email: daveho@epd.gov.hk

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

Chief Council Secretary (1)1  
Council Business Division 1  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Complex,  
1 Legislative Council Road, Central  
Hong Kong  
(Attn: Ms. Angel Shek)

27 March 2017

Dear Ms. Shek,

**Subcommittee on Air Pollution Control (Vehicle Design Standards)  
(Emission)(Amendment) Regulation 2017**

**follow-up actions arising from the discussion  
at the meeting on 20 March 2017**

Please find in the Annex the information requested by Members at the meeting on 20 March 2017 regarding diesel private cars imported into/registered in Hong Kong that have been fitted with defeat device.

If you have any queries, please contact the undersigned on 2594 6401.

Yours sincerely,

(Dave Ho)

for Director of Environmental Protection

Encl.

**Tackling excessive emissions from diesel private cars imported into/registered in Hong Kong that have been fitted with defeat device to circumvent emission testing.**

**Overseas vehicle manufacturers have been found to supply diesel private cars that have been fitted with defeat device to circumvent the emission testing such that the cars complied with the specified emission standards while testing in a laboratory but their on road emissions much exceeded the emission standards. In this connection, the Administration is requested to provide information on whether Hong Kong has the same findings and the remedial actions taken/to be taken, including the remediation time table, by the Administration to tackle the excessive emissions of diesel private cars fitted with defeat device.**

On 18 September 2015, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) announced that Volkswagen (VW) had installed defeat devices in its diesel private cars. The defeat devices had enabled the vehicles to comply with the specified emission standards while testing in a laboratory but their on road emissions exceeded the emission standards.

After the news was published, Environmental Protection Department immediately contacted the relevant regulatory authorities in the United States and European Union (EU) as well as Volkswagen Group Hong Kong (VWHK) to get more information. We also contacted other local representatives of manufacturers who imported diesel private cars to the local market to understand the situation. According to the information, the affected diesel private car models announced by USEPA and VW had not been registered for use in Hong Kong.

For diesel commercial vehicles (DCV), after we noted in October 2015 a separate report revealing that some DCVs manufactured by VW were also installed with defeat devices, we immediately asked VWHK to provide relevant information. VWHK admitted that one of their DCV models called Caddy sold in Hong Kong had the defeat device. We thus withdrew the exhaust emission type-approval for first registration of the mentioned vehicle model on 16 October 2015 disallowing further new registration of this vehicle model in Hong Kong.

According to the Transport Department, 269 units of the affected vehicle have been registered in Hong Kong. We have required VWHK to take remedial actions to bring these vehicles into compliance with the prescribed statutory emission standard, which is in line with the practice

elsewhere.

As there are about 11 million vehicles affected worldwide, the remediation has to take place in phases. Details of the remediation for the affected Caddy model have been approved by the German Federal Motor Transport Authority in December 2016. The remediation includes reprogramming the engine control unit and installing a rectifier in the air filter. VWHK has notified the concerned vehicle owners and started the remediation of the affected vehicles in early 2017. VWHK expects to complete the remediation by the end of 2017. Up to 24 March 2017, 48 out of 269 affected vehicles were remediated. We will continue to closely monitor the progress of the remediation.