

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**ENB034**

**(Question Serial No. 0766)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the work of the Department on approval and monitoring of the operation of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations, please provide the following information:

1. The contracts of the 12 dedicated LPG filling stations will expire between 2021 and 2022. Will the Department renew the contracts with the current operators, invite open tenders or resume the sites for establishing non-dedicated LPG filling stations?
2. The monthly number of vehicles refilled at the 12 dedicated LPG filling stations for the past three years.
3. Has the Department received any complaints in the past three years that not all filling nozzles were in operation at the dedicated LPG filling stations? If yes, what is the number of complaints and has the Department conducted surprise inspections to the filling stations being complained against?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Wai-keung (Member Question No. 40)

Reply:

1. To improve roadside air quality, the LPG taxi incentive scheme which encouraged taxi owners to switch from diesel vehicles to LPG ones was launched in 2000 by the Government. In the same year, 12 dedicated LPG filling stations were put into service for early forming of an LPG filling network. The contract period of the dedicated LPG filling stations is 21 years and the contracts will expire between 2021 and 2022. Towards the end of the contracts, the Government will consider the entire market situation, and take into account considerations of maintaining smooth operation of the LPG filling network, meeting the operational needs of LPG vehicles, etc. in arranging future operations after contract expiry.

2. Based on the operational records provided by operators of the dedicated LPG filling stations, the respective monthly numbers of vehicles refilled at each of the 12 dedicated LPG filling stations for the past three years are as follows:

Year	2012	2013	2014
Monthly utilisation rate of each dedicated LPG filling station (no. of vehicles/month)	40 602 to 132 053	31 326 to 125 384	32 149 to 120 375

3. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) received 21 complaint cases that not all filling nozzles were in operation at the dedicated LPG filling stations in the past three years. The respective numbers of complaints are shown in the following table:

Year	2012	2013	2014
No. of complaints	15	4	2

EMSD will conduct investigations to find out the causes when complaints are received. If the complaint is substantiated, EMSD will request the operator of the dedicated LPG filling station to follow up and implement improvement measures. EMSD will conduct inspections on LPG filling stations, including surprise inspections to filling stations being complained against to ensure the conditions are improved.

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