

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

EEB(E)031

(Question Serial No. 2700)

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 (PANG Yiu-hung)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment and Ecology

Question:

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) is responsible for monitoring the two power companies in Hong Kong. In recent years, there have been a number of fire incidents involving cable bridges and transformer rooms, resulting in problems like power interruptions. In this regard, would the Government advise this Committee of the following:

1. In each of the past 3 years, how many incidents of transient voltage dip or power interruption involving the power supply systems of the respective power company occurred?
2. Further to the above question, for how many of these incidents, reporting to the EMSD or follow-up investigations by the EMSD staff were required?
3. Currently, what are the staff establishment and provision reserved for conducting follow-up investigations or routine inspections regarding the above-mentioned incidents?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Hei, Edward (LegCo internal reference no.: 40)

Reply:

1 and 2. According to the records of incidents reported by the two power companies (namely the CLP Power Hong Kong Limited (CLP) and The Hong Kong Electric Company, Limited (HEC)) under the prevailing reporting mechanism, the numbers of voltage dip and power interruption incidents involving the power supply systems of the CLP and HEC over the past 3 years are as follows:

Nature of incidents	Number of incidents					
	2020		2021		2022	
	CLP	HEC	CLP	HEC	CLP	HEC
Voltage dip	5	1	2	0	8	0
Power interruption	8	0	8	0	11	1

As per the Electricity Ordinance, the two power companies are required to submit a report to the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) after the occurrence of a voltage dip or power interruption incident to explain the identified causes of the incident, and to take remedial measures, in order to prevent the recurrence of a similar incident. The two power companies have submitted reports to the EMSD for the incidents tabulated above, and the EMSD has followed up on such incidents and urged the two power companies to make improvements to prevent the recurrence of similar incidents.

3. The EMSD is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the Electricity Ordinance and its subsidiary legislation. The major tasks include ensuring the safety of electrical installations and electrical products, ensuring the safety of electricity supply, and promoting the safe use of electricity through public education. With regard to ensuring the safety of electricity supply, the EMSD monitors and inspects the operation of the two power companies, and takes follow-up actions or conducts investigations on incidents involving power supply facilities. As following up on such incidents is part of the overall duties of the EMSD in implementing and enforcing the Electricity Ordinance and its subsidiary legislation, a separate breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved in such work is not available.

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