

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead:
Department

Programme: (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

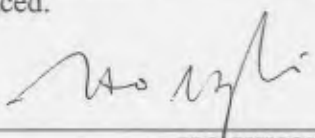
Question: For the item relating to implementation of the second phase of the mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme (EELS), please advise:

- (a) what products the Government plans to include in the second phase of the mandatory EELS, and whether the types of products will be increased after taking into account the views of the public?
- (b) the timetable for the public consultation and legislative process of the second phase of the mandatory EELS; and
- (c) as other countries have imposed the Minimum Energy Performance Standards for certain electrical products, will the Government consider to include such requirements in the mandatory EELS? If yes, what are the details? If not, why?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Chu-ming, Martin

Reply:

- (a) The first phase of the mandatory EELS covers three types of products, namely room air conditioners, refrigerating appliances and compact fluorescent lamps, which together account for about 70% of the electricity consumption in a household. For the second phase of the mandatory EELS, the Government is considering other products under the existing voluntary EELS such as washing machines, dehumidifiers and electric storage water heaters. We will conduct market surveys to assess the market situation and potential energy savings, and take the views of the public into account, before finalising the proposal.
- (b) We will conduct market surveys this year to assess the market situation and potential energy savings, and take the views of the public into account, before finalising the proposal for the second phase of the mandatory EELS. We plan to submit the legislative proposal to the Legislative Council in 2009.
- (c) The mandatory EELS enables consumers to be better informed of the energy efficiency of the products, and to become more conscious of the energy consumption when making their purchase decision. It is expected that the mandatory EELS will encourage product suppliers to supply more energy-efficient products to meet customers' needs, and will phase out the products with low energy efficiency performance by market force. The Government will review the effectiveness of the mandatory EELS before considering whether Minimum Energy Performance Standards should be introduced.

Signature 
Name in block letters HO KWONG WAI
Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services
Date 26 March 2008