

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

Head: 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead:

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: As mentioned under the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2009-10, the Department will implement the first phase of the mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme (EELS) and make proposal for the second phase of the scheme. Please advise the relevant work plan, timetable and estimated expenditure.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply:

The Energy Efficiency (Labelling of Products) Ordinance (the Ordinance) was enacted on 9 May 2008, with an 18-month grace period for the trades to make the necessary preparation for the implementation of the first phase of the mandatory EELS. Upon the expiry of the grace period on 8 November 2009, energy labels will be required to be shown on the three prescribed products, namely room air-conditioners, refrigerating appliances and compact fluorescent lamps, for supply in Hong Kong. The Government will continue its efforts in promoting the scheme to the public and the trades. The estimated expenditure in 2009-10 is about \$200,000.

The Government has pledged in the 2008-09 Policy Address to propose legislative amendments to the Ordinance in 2009 for the implementation of the second phase of the mandatory EELS. The Government has prepared the necessary information for law drafting and has set up a taskforce to consult relevant trades and stakeholders in the first quarter of 2009. It is envisaged that the consultation with the trades will complete in the third quarter of 2009, and the amendment proposal will then be ready for submission to the Legislative Council by the fourth quarter of 2009. It is premature to estimate the required expenditure of the second phase of the scheme at this stage.

Signature 

Name in block letters HO KWONG WAI

Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date 18 March 2009