Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

ENB064

Question Serial No.

3043

Head:	42 Electrical a Department	ind Me	chanical Services	Subhead (No. & title):	
Programme:		(1)	Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety		
Controlling Officer:		Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services			
Director of Bureau:		Secretary for the Environment			
Question	<u>n</u> :				

The Administration plans to approve two liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations in 2013. Please advise the details of these filling stations (including their locations and dates of commencement of operation) and the estimated expenditures involved?

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

The two LPG filling stations to be approved in 2013 are located at Repulse Bay and Tsing Yi, which are expected to commence operation by September 2013 and March 2014 respectively according to the land lease conditions.

The approval process of LPG filling stations is handled by a team of engineers and inspectors in the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department whose responsibilities cover a wide range of duties, including inspection, investigation, public education and publicity. We do not have a breakdown of the estimated expenditures involved in the approval process.

Name in block letters:	CHAN Fan		
	Director of Electrical and		

Post Title: Mechanical Services

Date: _____ 28.3.2013

Supplementary information for SFC Q3043:

Q1: Will the number of LPG filling stations be adequate to meet the demand?

A1. At present, there are 61 LPG filling stations in Hong Kong, including 12 dedicated and 49 non-dedicated stations in Hong Kong. They can support the entire fleet of LPG taxis and LPG public light buses to use LPG as fuel. The queuing of LPG vehicles at some dedicated stations during shift-changing peak hours is due to a large number of LPG vehicles going to there for refilling concurrently.

Session 7 ENB – page

Q2:Is there any plan for the construction of more dedicated LPG filling stations?

A2: The Government has no plan to increase the number of dedicated stations at present. To make refilling more convenient for LPG vehicles, the Government has a standing policy since 2000 to include LPG filling facility requirement in land sales for new petrol filling stations, subject to safety requirements being met. Moreover, the Government will continue to encourage LPG vehicle users to go for refilling during off-peak hours through the quarterly liaison meetings between the operators of dedicated stations and the LPG vehicle trades. The two new LPG filling stations to be approved in 2013 are not dedicated LPG filling stations.

Q3: What are the work and the procedures for handling construction and use approval of a proposed LPG filling station?

A3: For every application for construction approval of a proposed LPG filling station, the applicant should submit an application form with a prescribed fee to EMSD. The application should include information on the location and surrounding environment, quantitative risk assessment report, design and construction of the proposed LPG filling station for assessment by EMSD. EMSD will process the application either to approve or to disapprove the construction approval within 30 working days upon receipt of the application. Upon receipt of construction approval from EMSD, the applicant can start the site work. Upon completion of the site work, the applicant shall submit an application for use approval together with a prescribed fee to EMSD. EMSD will inspect the LPG facilities either to grant or to refuse to grant the use approval within 12 working days.

Q4: How long does it take from the application to final approval for operation of a LPG filling stations?

A4. The time may depend on the complexity and scale of the work involved. Usually, the construction period takes the longest time which may last for a year including purchase, delivery, installation and testing of LPG equipment before the station can be put into service. The performance pledges of EMSD for approval of construction and use of LPG filling station are 34 and 14 days respectively.

Q5: Is there any guideline for design and construction of LPG filling station?

A5: EMSD has published "Code of Practice for Liquefied Petroleum Gas Filling Stations in Hong Kong" to provide guidance to the trade.