

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

ENB043

Question Serial No.

3450

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
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:

1. Has the Administration collected any statistics on the utilisation rate of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations? Please provide the average waiting time for receiving services during peak (shift changing hours) and non-peak periods at the dedicated and non-dedicated LPG filling stations on Hong Kong Island;
2. Has the Administration received any complaints on waiting time for receiving services at LPG filling stations last year? Please provide the number of complaints according to the locations of LPG filling stations concerned;
3. The Administration plans to approve two LPG filling stations next year (2013), what are the details these stations including the location? When will the Administration expect these filling stations to commence operation?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

1. Based on the operational records provided by the operators, on average about 1 400 to 4 400 vehicles per station were refilled daily at the 12 dedicated LPG filling stations in 2012. LPG vehicles usually queue up for filling during shift-changing periods, in particular at those dedicated LPG filling stations at popular locations. Outside shift-changing periods, taxis and PLBs do not normally require much waiting time for refilling even at dedicated LPG filling stations. As for non-dedicated LPG filling stations, LPG vehicles usually do not need to queue up for much time for filling. We do not have statistics on the operation of non-dedicated LPG filling stations.
2. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department received 19 complaints relating to waiting time for services at LPG filling stations in 2012. The breakdown of these complaints with respect to the LPG filling stations concerned is shown in the following table:

Location of LPG filling station	Ma On Shan	Tuen Mun	Chai Wan	West Kowloon	Sheung Wan	Wan Chai	Not Specified
No. of Complaints	2	1	1	10	2	1	2

- (b) hold regular meetings with the operators to review their services and identify areas for improvement, where appropriate, such as measures to secure a high nozzle availability;
- (c) arrange meetings with the trade organizations to facilitate direct communication between them and the operators;
- (d) visit the stations to inspect nozzle and manpower conditions; and
- (e) remind the operators from time to time to ensure efficient operation, including good nozzle availability, and properly maintain their station facilities.

Q7: What actions would be taken on finding any irregularity on the operations of dedicated LPG filling stations and non-compliance with contractual requirement?

A7: If there is any irregularity found on the operations of a dedicated LPG filling station, EMSD will follow up with the respective operator and request him to provide explanation. EMSD will write to the operator to draw their attention to the relevant contractual requirement and require him to implement improvement measures where appropriate. If the operator is found to be not complying with the contractual requirements of dedicated LPG filling station, EMSD can issue a warning letter to him. In case the operator has persistently failed to made improvement despite receipt of the warning letters, the Government may consider terminating the operator's contract.

Q8: Is there any plan for the construction of more dedicated LPG filling stations?

A8. The Government has no plan to increase the number of dedicated LPG 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 petrol filling stations, subject to safety requirements being met.