

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

EEB(E)039

(Question Serial No. 0211)

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 (POON Kwok-ying)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment and Ecology

Question:

The estimated provision for Programme (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department in 2026-27 is \$232.9 million, representing an increase of 6.8% over the original estimate for 2025-26. This is mainly due to the formulation of a regulatory framework and related codes of practice for hydrogen development. Will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. What is the specific progress in the preparation of the subsidiary legislation under the Gas Safety Ordinance to regulate hydrogen and the expected timeline for submission to the Legislative Council for scrutiny?
2. What is the amount of resources earmarked by the Government for formulating "hydrogen standard certification" and establishing a certification system that connects with both the Chinese Mainland and the world; and how will the relevant certification assist local innovation and technology enterprises in exporting their products overseas?
3. What is the estimated expenditure for the Hydrogen Week scheduled for May 2026? What specific measures will the Government take to facilitate technical collaboration between the local business sector and international hydrogen enterprises through this event?

Asked by: Hon LAMPORT Jonathan Stuart (LegCo internal reference no.: 1)

Reply:

1. The Gas Safety (Amendment) Ordinance 2025 was gazetted on 25 July 2025. The Ordinance empowers the Chief Executive in Council to make subsidiary regulations on matters relating to the entire supply chain of "regulated hydrogen". The Government is drafting the subsidiary legislation and plans to submit it to the Legislative Council for negative vetting in the fourth quarter of this year, with a view to providing a clear legal framework and a stable regulatory environment for the hydrogen industry.
2. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has engaged a consultant to conduct a study on the Green Hydrogen Standard Certification Scheme (Certification

Scheme). Drawing on the latest developments of green and low-carbon hydrogen certification standards in the Chinese Mainland (Mainland) and overseas countries, we have established a preliminary certification framework, and commenced a trade consultation on 16 January 2026 to collect views from stakeholders. The consultation will end on 17 April 2026. The EMSD and the consultant team will conduct a detailed analysis of the views collected to refine the Certification Scheme and formulate specific implementation details. Our target is to establish, by 2027, a green hydrogen certification approach that connects with both the Mainland and the world, and is tailored to Hong Kong's actual circumstances.

To proceed to the next phase of the study and formulate the details of the Certification Scheme, we have earmarked about \$2 million for consultancy fees. The green hydrogen certification model will help align with and promote the development of green finance, support Hong Kong's development into demonstration base for global hydrogen development, and foster quality growth in the green energy sector.

3. Multiple events are being planned for the Hydrogen Week, including the International Hydrogen Development Symposium 2026, a mega event to be held from 18 to 20 May 2026 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. The symposium is expected to attract more than 1 000 experts and industry representatives from around the world, and bring together over 100 government officials in-charge of hydrogen development, global experts, industry leaders, scholars and industry elites as speakers. A large exhibition area will also be set up at the symposium for domestic and overseas organisations and enterprises to showcase their hydrogen products and service solutions, offering opportunities for the trade to expand networks and foster collaboration. We are planning to leverage the symposium as a platform for negotiation and signing of memoranda of understanding to promote multilateral collaboration. We will also introduce hydrogen standard certification scheme at the symposium, and invite guests and experts from the financial sector to deliver speeches and engage in discussions to advance green financing for hydrogen projects. Furthermore, we will continue to play the roles of "super connector" and "super value-adder" by arranging for overseas experts visits to the Mainland to attract foreign investment and demand, and help Mainland technologies and products "go global", with a view to identifying and facilitating collaboration opportunities domestically and internationally. The EMSD is actively taking forward the preparation of the symposium, including exploring co-operation with various organisations and finalising event details. As the relevant preparatory work is absorbed by existing manpower and resources, a breakdown of the estimated expenditure is not available.

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