

**Project 18/2004 – Application of photocatalytic oxidation technology for
disinfection of the water in seafood water tanks**

Purpose

This paper seeks Members' advice in funding the captioned application for ECF made by the University of Hong Kong.

Background

2. The funding requested by this project is \$149,864.00. The project is expected to last for 12 months. The project aims to evaluate the bactericidal effect of a PCO-based disinfection system against conventional UV method; to optimize the design of the system to enhance its disinfection efficiency in seafood water tanks; and to develop a user-friendly guideline for the trades for proper use of seawater/fresh water and disinfection devices.

3. The proposal was examined by AFCD and EPD. Having considered the project objectives and its deliverables, both departments pointed out that the project is more related to food health than environmental/conservation issues and thus did not support the proposal. In addition, the end product will be a commercial application, both departments thus considered that it is more appropriate for the PI to apply for funding support under the Innovation and Technology Fund.

4. The Research Projects Vetting Subcommittee (RPVSC) meeting on 2.12.2004 decided that the Secretariat should in future forward applications which were outside the ambit of the RPVSC to other relevant subcommittees and/or funds for consideration with a view to speed up the review process. In accordance with the decision, the Secretariat informed the project applicant that the application did not fall into the ambit of the Environment and Conservation Fund and advised the project applicant to seek funding support from other sources such as the Innovation and Technology Fund. The Secretariat would also notify the project applicant the decision of RPVSC after the meeting.

Advice sought

6. Members are invited to advise whether the proposal should be rejected as detailed in paragraph 3 above.

Secretariat, ECF Research Projects Vetting Subcommittee
January 2005