

**Project 4/2005 – Capacity building – identifying the missing links:
developing the Model for future community- operated
renewable energy (BIPV) projects**

Purpose

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

Background

2. The funding requested by this project is \$732,000.00 for the staff cost of employing Research Assistants for the modeling work (\$250,000.00), for the monitoring work (\$300,000.00), and for the generic monitoring system (\$150,000.00); for purchasing the generic monitoring system hardware (\$10,000.00); and for local traveling allowance, setting-up of the website and purchase of CD-R and monograms (\$22,000.00). The project is expected to last for 24 months.

3. The proposed research and monitoring project has the following three purposes:

- (i) to identify the learning curve and areas of necessary capacity building to ensure the successful take-up (operation) by the community of renewable energy applications beyond research or demonstration projects in order to create the Model for future projects
- (ii) to monitor the longer-term performance of grid-connected building integrated photovoltaics (BIPV) systems focusing on maintenance issues and components' performance. It is proposed the project should be based on the recently completed School BIPV Installation at Ma Wan School; and
- (iii) to design and specify an appropriate low-cost BIPV monitoring system for general applications.

4. The proposal has been examined by the Electrical & Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) and two overseas expert assessors. EMSD considers the project worthy of support as it will raise public awareness on renewable energy and provide practical contribution to the study on the

application of renewable energy in Hong Kong.

5. Two external expert assessors have also been invited to comment on the proposal and both of them support the proposal. Assessor 1 considers this is a well-thought out and useful project squarely focused on improving environmental performance through protection and conservation. Assessor 2 considers that the project will provide valuable knowledge and expertise to support the applications of BIPV systems in the built environment in Hong Kong.

Advice sought

6. Members are invited to advise whether the application for ECF should be supported as detailed in paragraphs 2 to 3 above and if supported, the exact amount of fund to be approved.

Secretariat, ECF Research Projects Vetting Subcommittee
December 2005