

## Minutes of 40th Meeting (Part 2) of Environment and Conservation Fund Waste Recovery Projects Vetting Sub-Committee

Date : 4 March 2014 (Tue)  
Time : 2:00 p.m.  
Venue : Conference Room (Rm 502), 5/F, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wanchai

### Present

Professor LO Man-chi, Irene (Chairperson)

Dr. CHAN Chi-kau, Johnnie, BBS, JP

Mr. CHAN Ho-lim, Joseph

Ms CHAN May-kuen, Sylvia

Mr. FAN Jor-ching, Jor

Ms FUNG Dun-mi, Amy

Mr. LEONG Lap-kan, James

Mr. LO Yan-lai

Mr. LOCK Kwok-on, Anthony

Mr. POON Yuen-fong, Sanford

Mr. TAM Wai-kit, Alex

Mr. WONG Tze-kang, Rico

Dr. CHUI Ho-kwong, Samuel Environmental Protection Department (EPD)

Mr. LEE Siu-tak, Derek Environment Bureau (ENB)

Ms Elaine CHUNG EPD (Secretary)

Ms MA Yin-ling, Amber EPD (Assistant Secretary)

### Absent with Apologies

Ms CHEUK Fung-ting, Phyllis

### In Attendance

Mr. CHEN Che-kong EPD

Dr. LUI Pin-hon EPD

Mr. LAU Chi-fai, Stanley EPD

Mr. YUEN Po-hung EPD

Mr. CHAN Wing-cheong, Matthew EPD

Dr. LAM Siu, Zola EPD

Mr. TAM Chin-hung, Alex EPD

## **Welcoming Remarks**

The **Chairperson** welcomed all Members and representatives of the EPD to the 40<sup>th</sup> meeting (part 2) of the Waste Recovery Projects Vetting Sub-committee (WRPVSC). The application forms received and the summary of the applications for Waste Reduction Projects were circulated to Members before the meeting. A summary of the applications received, including the budgets of the proposals and the quantities of items/waste to be collected/recycled of the applications, were tabled for Members' reference (*key information extracted at **Appendix I***<sup>Note</sup>).

## **Agenda Item 1: Vetting of (15) New and (1) Revised Waste Recovery Projects (WRP) Applications**

2. The discussion on FWR 004 under Any Other Business was advanced and placed before agenda item 1.
3. Ms CHAN May-kuen, Sylvia joined the meeting at 2:11p.m. during the discussion on project FWR 004. Mr. LEONG Lap-kan, James joined the meeting at 2:15p.m. after the discussion on project FWR 004.
4. **Ms Elaine CHUNG** briefed Members on three new applications which were invalid and should not be considered. Two applications of WRP 306 and 307 from the same organisation had not been properly signed and affixed with the organisation's chop before the closing time of the application period, while the organisation of the other application WRP 273 failed to provide documentary proof of its non-profit making status.
5. **Ms Elaine CHUNG** recapitulated the new vetting mechanism for new WRP applications.
6. **Ms Elaine CHUNG** briefed Members on one application for budget revision i.e. WRP 201, and invited Members' views. After discussion, the **Meeting** supported the budget revision. Details of the decision were given at **Appendix II** <sup>Note</sup>.
7. **Mr. TAM Chin-hung, Alex** briefed Members on six (6) new WRP applications, i.e. WRP 270, 288, 269, 272, 252 & 254, and invited Members' views. After discussion, the **Meeting** rejected all the applications. Details of the decision were given at **Appendix III** <sup>Note</sup>.
8. After the discussion on project WRP 272, Mr. LOCK Kwok-on, Anthony joined the meeting at 2:39 p.m.
9. **Dr. LUI Ping-hon** briefed Members on the background of food donation projects.
10. **Dr. CHUI Ho-kwong, Samuel** briefed Members on nine (9) new WRP applications on food donation, i.e. WRP 280, 286, 287, 291, 293, 295, 298, 299 & 300, and invited Members' views. After discussion, the **Meeting** supported-in-principle five (5) new applications i.e. WRP 280, 287, 291, 299 & 300; and rejected four (4) applications, i.e. WRP 286, 293, 295 & 298. Details of the decision were given at **Appendix III** <sup>Note</sup>.
11. The **Meeting** noted that food donation projects were new to ECF and that there were hygiene and health risk concerns relating to operation of this kind of projects. **Members** suggested inviting representatives of all the five (5) supported project applications (i.e. WRP 280, 287, 291, 299 & 300) to the Meeting to give a 10-minute presentation on their project proposals and to answer Members' enquiries, if any.
12. In the meantime, **Members** would also like to invite the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) to brief **Members** on the "Food Safety Guidelines for Food Recovery" (the Guidelines) promulgated by the CFS and highlighted the salient points of particular concerns to operation of food donation projects.

13. **Dr. LAM Siu, Zola** undertook to line up with CFS and arranged the presentation accordingly.

*[Post-meeting note: Members were briefed by representative of CFS on 18 April 2014.]*

14. During the discussion on project WRP 300, Mr. CHAN Ho-lim, Joseph joined the meeting at 4:01p.m.

15. After the discussion of agenda item 1, Dr. LUI Ping-hon, Mr. CHAN Wing-cheong, Matthew and Mr. LAU Chi-fai, Stanley left the meeting at 4:35 p.m., and Mr. YUEN Po-hung joined the meeting at 4:40p.m.

## **Agenda Item 2: Any Other Business**

16. **Mr. TAM Chin-hung, Alex** updated Members on the latest situation of the funding scheme on Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates. He also confirmed with Members that the wireless data logging system of FWR 004 was not supported and the approved budget of the project was \$1,269,323.

17. **Mr. CHEN Che-kong** briefed Members on EPD's assessment of the Annual Business Plan (ABP) proposed by Yan Oi Tong (YOT) for the second year of operation of the Plastic Resources Recycling Centre (PRRC) from 3 March 2014 to 2 March 2015.

18. In the ABP, YOT had proposed a set of Performance Indicators (PIs) for the second year of the PRRC operation. After discussion, **Members** approved the ABP in principle. The PIs would be adopted as the Minimum Satisfactory Performance Indicators (MSPIs) for measuring the performance of YOT in running the PRRC in the second year of the project based on the holistic assessment mechanism of the project.

19. **Members** were also invited to note the background concerning a proposed ad hoc arrangement for YOT to clear some stockpiled plastics as set out below. While more plastic waste was collected by YOT from ECF community recycling projects (CRPs) recently along with EPD's strengthened efforts, the plastics market shrank, with many local recyclers stopped collecting plastic waste in the community as a result of the Mainland's Green Fence Operation (GFO) starting in February 2013. Many estate and building management companies asked for EPD's assistance to find outlets for their plastic waste. To avoid dumping of plastic recyclables at landfills, EPD arranged for them to be delivered to the nearby ECF CRPs and then be collected by YOT.

20. Due to sustained outlet problem of plastic waste under weak market demand and the effects of GFO, some plastic waste could not be timely processed by the PRRC and was gradually stockpiled. In view of the lack of storage space for further stockpiling, selling some of the partially processed plastic waste, with appropriate measures to ensure proper after-sale recycling, was necessary. **Members** recognized YOT's role in sustaining the source separation and subsequent recycling of plastic waste and the storage problem they encountered.

21. The proposed selling was a one-off arrangement and the revenue derived from the sale would be ploughed back to offset the operating costs of the project in accordance with the agreement

between ECF and YOT, and there was no additional subsidy to YOT since the ceiling of the ECF funding support would remain unchanged.

22. **Mr. CHEN Che-kong** supplemented that ECF CRPs would be advised to pass all plastic waste collected to either the PRRC or a commercial recycler(s), but not partially to both parties. They would also be advised to conduct ‘clean’ recycling and to avoid collecting plastic waste which had no or very low recycling value.

23. Referring to the applications of WRP 277, 278 and 289 which were discussed in the 40th Meeting (Part 1) on 25 February 2014 and approved for a project period of only 12 months, **Ms Elaine CHUNG** informed Members that the re-calculated approved budgets of the projects based on a 12-month project period were \$1,467,810 (WRP 277), \$1,395,810 (WRP 278) and \$1,516,980 (WRP 289) respectively.

24. Note

25. Note

26. **Dr. LAM Siu, Zola** briefed Members that modelling on the normal expenditure pattern for FWR projects and SSW Model projects and taking into account the requirements specific to food donation projects, the Secretariat had prepared a list of reference budgets for various expenditure items for food donation project. The Meeting would in future make reference to this list when considering the amount of funding support for individual food donation projects. The list would be reviewed from time to time in the light of experience gained in the actual operation of the food donation projects. The **Meeting** agreed in principle making a list of reference budgets for food donation projects and requested the Secretariat to circulate details of the list to Members for scrutiny and approval.

27. No other businesses were raised by Members.

### **Agenda Item 3: Date of Next Meeting**

28. The **Chairperson** remarked that the Secretariat would inform Members the date and venue of the next meeting in due course. The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

### **Waste Recovery Projects Vetting Sub-committee Secretariat September 2014**

Note: The paragraph/appendix will not be included in the version of notes to be uploaded to the webpage of ECF according to the standing practice of not disclosing the detailed reasons for supporting or rejecting an application. The ECF webpage contains a general disclaimer that “Reasons for supporting/rejecting an application had been made known to the project proponents concerned, and the public could ask the project proponents direct for such information.”