

Your Views Count

ILB is commonly used in our daily lives. We invite your views and comments on the proposal for restricting the supply of energy-inefficient ILB, in particular on the following questions-

- **Should Hong Kong restrict the supply of energy-inefficient ILB by mandatory scheme, voluntary measures or leaving it to market forces?**
- **What types of ILB should be restricted if a mandatory scheme is introduced to restrict the supply of ILB?**
- **Should Hong Kong adopt the MEPS approach in phasing out ILB?**

Please send us your comments on or before **11 November 2011** by mail, email or facsimile to the following –



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Environment Bureau
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

**Deadline:
11 November 2011**

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Public Consultation on the Restriction of Sale of Energy-inefficient Incandescent Light Bulbs



Current Electricity Consumption of Lighting Installations

- In the past decade, lighting on average accounts for around 15% of the total electricity consumption in Hong Kong.
- Non-reflector type incandescent light bulbs (ILB) in commercial and residential buildings consume about 900 GWh per annum, which amounts to more than 2% of electricity consumption in Hong Kong.
- Though prevalent, ILB which works by heating its tungsten filament is not energy-efficient as 90% of the electricity consumed will be lost as heat whereas only 10% is used for lighting.
- Replacement of ILB by energy-efficient substitutes will achieve substantial saving in power consumption.

Improving Energy Efficiency by Phasing Out Incandescent Light Bulbs

- In view of the lower energy efficiency of ILB, many overseas countries and economies have implemented or plan to implement schemes to phase out ILB.
- At the same time, more energy-efficient substitutes, e.g. compact fluorescent lamps (CFL), are widely promoted around the world as replacement for ILB. CFL can save over 70% of electricity as compared to ILB.
- Energy efficiency in Hong Kong may be improved by replacing ILB by energy-efficient lighting alternatives.

The Proposal

- We **propose** to restrict the supply of ILB in phases by mandatory scheme.
- We **propose** that the initial phase should cover 25 watt or above non-reflector type ILB which operates at a single phase electricity supply of nominal voltage of 220V, including-



- Among these lamps, we **propose**
 - (a) to prohibit the supply of those lamps that cannot meet the minimum energy performance standard (MEPS); and
 - (b) that the supply of those lamps that can meet the MEPS should be governed by a registration system.
- As most 25 watt or above of these lamps supplied in Hong Kong cannot meet the prevailing MEPS adopted overseas, the adoption of MEPS for the scheme will effectively reduce the supply of such lamps in the local market, thereby achieving a substantial environmental gain.

Environmental and Economic Gains

- Implementation of the initial phase of the mandatory scheme can bring about an estimated electricity saving of up to 390 GWh per annum, amounting to over 6% of the electricity consumption for lighting.
- It also yields a potential annual saving of \$390 million in electricity bills and a reduction of 273,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions.