

**Business Facilitation Advisory Committee
Task Force on Business Liaison Groups**

*Advisory letters under the Energy Audit Code for commercial buildings
under conversion to hotels*

Background

The Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance (Cap. 610) (BEEO) was implemented in 2012 to regulate building energy efficiency in respect of the four building service installations (BSIs), viz, air-conditioning installation, lighting installation, electrical installation, and lift/escalator installations. Under the Energy Audit Code (EAC) of BEEO, commercial buildings and the commercial portions of a composite building are required to carry out energy audit every 10 years. Hotel premises licensed under Hotel and Guesthouse Accommodation Ordinance (Cap. 349) are not regarded as commercial buildings and thus energy audit is not required under BEEO.

Trade's Concern

2. At a Business Liaison Group meeting for hotels, the trade enquired why advisory letters under EAC were received from the Electrical & Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) requiring commercial buildings under conversion to hotels to conduct energy audits.

Administration's Response

3. In response, EMSD has explained that an advisory letter under EAC is normally issued to the owner of each commercial building for carrying out energy audit according to the building type information captured in the occupation permit record kept by the Buildings Department. It is therefore possible for an owner of a hotel building being converted from a commercial building to receive the advisory letter. For such cases, upon receipt of the advisory letter, the building owner can further deliberate with EMSD by informing the status of the building concerned, and providing a layout plan

showing the proposed hotel licensing area and the BSIs therein etc., together with the time frame for the completion of the conversion.

Way Forward

4. Members are invited to note the content of this paper and offer comments, if any.

Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
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