

美
國
商
會



THE AMERICAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
IN HONG KONG

Frank Martin, sbs
President

July 12, 2004

BY EMAIL (2g-consultation@ofta.gov.hk)
AND BY POST

Office of the Telecommunications Authority
29/F Wu Chung House
213 Queen's Road East
Wanchai
Hong Kong

Attn: Senior Telecommunications Engineer (Technical Regulation) 2

Dear Sir / Madam:

Re: Further Consultation – Licensing of Mobile Services on Expiry of Existing Licences for Second Generation Mobile Services

The American Chamber of Commerce respectfully submits this letter in response to the Hong Kong Telecommunications Authority's second consultation paper on Licensing of Mobile Service on Expiry of Existing Licences for Second Generation Mobile Services.

The American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong is one of the largest American Chambers outside the United States and the largest international chamber in Hong Kong. The Chamber has worked to promote US-China trade and Hong Kong as a premier international business center for over 30 years.

We note the current debate and the complexity of the issues involved on this subject. We would encourage the Government not to make any decisions lightly but only after expert studies and adequate consultation with the industry.

The Chamber reiterates the need for the TA to continue its policy of technology neutrality. The TA should allow the operators, taking into account only market factors, to determine the technology to be employed.

The Chamber is a fervent supporter of predictable, transparent and consistent regulatory policies. A stable and healthy investment environment is of prime importance if Hong Kong is to remain competitive as an international business center and attractive to investment. Spectrum management

is a fundamental aspect of mobile industry regulation. There is substantial discussion on-going internationally on the need for a total spectrum policy. Regulatory bodies, for the benefit of the long term development of the mobile industry should set out clearly policies which govern not only licence renewal but also principles on spectrum refarming, spectrum trading and spectrum utilization fees, so that businesses and investments can be planned accordingly. We note that the present consultation does not cover all such issues and would urge the TA to make a decision on licence renewal and spectrum re-allocation in the context of a full-blown spectrum policy which is arrived at after direct dialogue with the industry.

Please contact me if have you further questions or require any clarification regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. M. P.' with a stylized flourish at the end.