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Ms Christina Ng

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Dear Ms Ng,

Exposure Draft (ED/2015/8) Application of materiality to financial statements

I refer to your letter dated 9 November 2015 inviting our comments on the exposure draft ("the Exposure Draft") issued by the International Accounting Standards Board in respect of the International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") Practice Statement: Application of Materiality to Financial Statements.

The aim of the Exposure Draft is to provide guidance to assist management in applying the concept of materiality to financial statements prepared in accordance with the IFRS. The Exposure Draft addresses, among others, the following issues: (a) characteristics of materiality, (b) how to apply the concept of materiality when making decisions about presenting and disclosing information in financial statements, and (c) how to assess whether omissions and misstatements of information are material to financial statements.

We welcome the issue of application guidance on materiality in the form of a practice statement as such guidance could provide a common ground for how materiality is applied to financial statements and foster thinking on which information is relevant to the statements users. As regards the content of the guidance and the timing of issuance, we have no strong view and would leave them to other stakeholders to comment upon.

We are grateful for the opportunity to provide our comments on the Exposure Draft.

Yours sincerely,

(CHAN Sze-wai, Benjamin) for Commissioner of Inland Revenue

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