

## **Charter on External Lighting**

### **Details**

The Environment Bureau (ENB) will launch the “Charter on External Lighting” (the “Charter”) in 2016 to invite owners of and responsible persons for external lighting installations to switch off lighting installations of decorative, promotional or advertising purposes which affect the outdoor environment during the preset time (i.e. 11 p.m. or midnight to 7 a.m. on the following day).

### **Purpose**

1. **Minimise light nuisance:** Due to the high building density in Hong Kong, external lighting at night will cause nuisance to nearby residents. To switch off unnecessary external lighting during the preset time can provide residents with an environment conducive to sleep.
2. **Minimise energy wastage:** To shorten the operating hours of external lighting can reduce energy consumption and save electricity.

Details of the switch-off requirement under the Charter are set out at **Appendix 1**.

### **Target**

The following owners and responsible persons of external lighting installations are invited to sign up to the Charter which will commence in April 2016-

1. Property management companies
2. Owners of advertising signs or advertising agencies that manage advertising signs
3. Hotels, shopping malls, shops, restaurants and public bodies and organisations with external lighting installations or signboards

### **Award scheme**

1. ENB will publicise the names of the Charter signatories in newspapers and Government websites, and will invite their representatives to join the Charter signing ceremony. Charter signatories will be given certificates.
2. Organisations or shops which comply with the switch-off

requirement will receive the following awards by ENB in 2017:

- (i) Platinum Award: Participating organisations or shops that switch off external lighting from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.
- (ii) Gold Award: Participating organisations or shops that switch off external lighting from midnight to 7 a.m.

### **Reasons for joining the Charter**

1. Fulfill corporate social responsibility: Minimise light nuisance to nearby residents
2. Save energy: Join our Energy Saving for All campaign to combat climate change, and contribute to the target of reducing energy intensity by 40% by 2025
3. Save money on electricity: To reduce the electricity consumption of external lighting and to reduce electricity expenses
4. Develop and enhance their corporate image: Participating organisations will receive stickers, certificates and awards of the Charter.

### **How to participate?**

Organisations and shops that are interested in signing up to the Charter are invited to complete the attached reply slip (at **Appendix 2**). Should you have any queries, please refer to the frequently asked questions on external lighting at ENB's website ([www.enb.gov.hk/external\\_lighting](http://www.enb.gov.hk/external_lighting)) or email to: [external\\_lighting@enb.gov.hk](mailto:external_lighting@enb.gov.hk).



**The Switch-off Requirement under the Charter**

1. Scope

The following external lighting should be switched off at the preset time:

- (i) Lighting installations of decorative, promotional or advertising purposes
- (ii) Lighting installations that are intended for illumination of the outdoor environment, regardless of whether the lighting installations are interior or exterior, should be switched off at the preset time
- (iii) Lighting installations of promotional or advertising purposes, including shop signs and advertising signs (e.g. signs illuminated by spotlights and light box signs, etc.) and outdoor video walls, etc.
- (iv) Decorative lighting, including lighting for facades and features, etc.
- (v) Signs and advertising signboards on higher levels: Signage on the first floor and above of a building, including signs and advertising signboards on the top of a building. Even the shops (regardless of whether these shops are located on the ground floor or the first floor or above of a building) are still in operation, light should be switched off at the preset time.
- (vi) Non-static signs: Any non-static lighting for decorative, promotional or advertising purposes (e.g. non-static signs and video walls, etc.) should be switched off after 11 p.m.. If the non-static sign is a shop-front sign on the ground floor, and the shop concerned is still in operation at the preset time, the non-static sign should be turned to static mode after 11 p.m..

2. Preset time

- (i) 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.. Participating organisations that choose to switch off external lighting during this preset time will be awarded a Platinum Award; or
- (ii) Midnight to 7 a.m.. Participating organisations that choose

to switch off external lighting during this preset time will be award a Gold Award.

### 3. Exempted external lighting installations

- (i) Shop-front signs of shops on the **ground floor** which remain open at the preset time: The shop-front signs should not be operated in non-static mode. If the signs are located on the first floor or above of a building, they should be switched off at the preset time even the ground floor shops are still in operation.
- (ii) Festive lightings: **Festive lightings** of decorative purpose, regardless of static or non-static, can be switched on at the preset time three weeks before the respective public holidays of Christmas, New Year and Lunar New Year until the morning of the seventh day after the holidays. However, external lighting installations of promotional or advertising purposes only should be switched off at the preset time.
- (iii) Lighting for security, safety and operational purposes (e.g. street lighting, lighting at airport and container port, construction sites, etc.): Due to safety and other operational considerations, such external lighting installations do not need to be switched off at the preset time. Hence, it is not necessary for the owners and management of such external lighting installations to sign up to the Charter. Yet, the Government encourages the organisations concerned to observe the Guidelines on Best Practices for External Lighting to minimise the nuisance caused by such lighting and the energy consumption.

**Charter on External Lighting  
Reply Slip**

**Please return the completed reply slip to the following event organiser appointed by the Environment Bureau before 1 March 2016. (Signatories that sign up to the Charter before 10 December 2015 will be invited to attend the launching ceremony on 11 January 2016)**

**To: Ms Gianne Chan**

**Email: [gianne@ornament.com.hk](mailto:gianne@ornament.com.hk)**

**Fax: (852) 3427 9140**

**Tel: (852) 3428 3520**

<b>Name of Organisation:</b> _____
<b>Name of Contact Person:</b> _____
<b>Post Title:</b> _____
<b>Fax:</b> _____ <b>Email:</b> _____
<b>Tel:</b> _____
<b>Name of Organisation to be published on newspapers and websites:</b> <i>(if the name is different from the Name of Organisation provided above)</i>
_____

**Part A**

**We support the Charter on External Lighting:**

- Option 1:** All of our \_\_\_\_\_ (*number of shops*) shops sign up to the Charter. We will switch off the external lighting installations at the preset time of \*11p.m. / midnight (\* please delete as appropriate). (*If different shops have different preset time, please fill in Part B*)
- Option 2:** Some of our shops sign up to the Charter. (*Please fill in Part B*)

**Remarks: Please ✓ the appropriate .**

## **Part B**

<b>Name and information of the external lighting installations of the participating organisation:</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>Location of the external lighting installations:</b> _____ _____ <b>Name of shop / sign (if applicable) :</b> _____ _____ <b>Type*:</b> sign / advertising signboard / decorative lighting for facades / video wall / others (please specify): _____ <b>Preset time*:</b> 11p.m. / midnight
<b>2</b>	<b>Location of the external lighting installations:</b> _____ _____ <b>Name of shop / sign (if applicable) :</b> _____ _____ <b>Type* :</b> sign / advertising signboard / decorative lighting for facades / video wall / others (please specify): _____ <b>Preset time*:</b> 11p.m. / midnight
<b>3</b>	<b>Location of the external lighting installations:</b> _____ _____ <b>Name of shop / sign (if applicable) :</b> _____ _____ <b>Type*:</b> sign / advertising signboard / decorative lighting for facades / video wall / others (please specify): _____ <b>Preset time*:</b> 11p.m. / midnight

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\* Please delete as appropriate

<b>Name and information of the external lighting installations of the participating organisation:</b>	
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Location of the external lighting installations:</b> _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Name of shop / sign (if applicable) :</b> _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Type*:</b> sign / advertising signboard / decorative lighting for facades / video wall / others (please specify): _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Preset time*:</b> 11p.m. / midnight</p>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Location of the external lighting installations:</b> _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Name of shop / sign (if applicable) :</b> _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Type* :</b> sign / advertising signboard / decorative lighting for facades / video wall / others (please specify): _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Preset time*:</b> 11p.m. / midnight</p>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Location of the external lighting installations:</b> _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Name of shop / sign (if applicable) :</b> _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Type*:</b> sign / advertising signboard / decorative lighting for facades / video wall / others (please specify): _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Preset time*:</b> 11p.m. / midnight</p>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Location of the external lighting installations:</b> _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Name of shop / sign (if applicable) :</b> _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Type*:</b> sign / advertising signboard / decorative lighting for facades / video wall / others (please specify): _____</p> <hr/> <p><b>Preset time*:</b> 11p.m. / midnight</p>

\* Please delete as appropriate

<b>Name and information of the external lighting installations of the participating organisation:</b>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Location of the external lighting installations:</b> _____ _____ <b>Name of shop / sign (if applicable) :</b> _____ _____ <b>Type* :</b> sign / advertising signboard / decorative lighting for facades / video wall / others (please specify): _____ <b>Preset time*:</b> 11p.m. / midnight
<b>9</b>	<b>Location of the external lighting installations:</b> _____ _____ <b>Name of shop / sign (if applicable) :</b> _____ _____ <b>Type*:</b> sign / advertising signboard / decorative lighting for facades / video wall / others (please specify): _____ <b>Preset time*:</b> 11p.m. / midnight
<b>10</b>	<b>Location of the external lighting installations:</b> _____ _____ <b>Name of shop / sign (if applicable) :</b> _____ _____ <b>Type* :</b> sign / advertising signboard / decorative lighting for facades / video wall / others (please specify): _____ <b>Preset time*:</b> 11p.m. / midnight
<b>...</b>	<i>(Continue)</i>

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\* Please delete as appropriate