This section describes CLP's major activities in Hong Kong, the Chinese mainland and elsewhere in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as the Group's financial results, funding and obligations during the first half of 2003.

# **BUSINESS OVERVIEW**

The CLP Group includes a vertically integrated electricity generation, transmission and distribution business in Hong Kong. The Group also invests in energy businesses in the Chinese mainland and the Asia-Pacific region and continues to explore selective opportunities in electricity-related businesses, which make use of existing assets, expertise and relationships. An outline of these activities is set out below:

		CI 30.6.20		up's Investments 31.12.2	002
Business Description	Assets	HK\$M	%	HK\$M	%
E	lectricity Business in Hong Kong				
<ul> <li>Electricity supplier since 1903</li> <li>Owner and operator of a vertically integrated electricity supply business, comprising: <ul> <li>Generation: 6,283 megawatts (MW) of installed generating capacity;</li> <li>Transmission: over 11,000 kilometres of transmission and distribution lines; and</li> <li>Distribution: 2.1 million customer accounts (about 80% of Hong Kong's total population)</li> <li>8.5% of electricity sales up to 30 June 2003 was for distribution to customers in Guangdong Province</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>40% each of Black Point Power Station (2,500MW, when completed), Castle Peak Power Station (4,108MW) and Penny's Bay Power Station (300MW)</li> <li>100% of Transmission and Distribution System</li> </ul>	42,884	64	42,395	72
Electricity Business	s in the Chinese Mainland and Asia-Paci	fic Reg	gion		
<ul> <li>Chinese Mainland</li> <li>Developer and investor in power projects since 1985</li> <li>Largest external investor in the Mainland electricity industry</li> <li>Interests in generating assets in the Chinese mainland (3,163 equity MW)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>49% of CLP Guohua Power Company Limited, Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei (2,100MW)</li> <li>49% of CLP Guohua Shenmu Power Company Limited, Shaanxi (200MW)</li> <li>29.4% of Shandong Zhonghua Power Company, Shandong (3,000MW)</li> <li>70% of Guizhou CLP Power Company Limited, Guizhou (600MW)</li> <li>25% of Guangdong Nuclear Power Joint Venture Company, Limited, Guangdong (1,968MW)</li> <li>49% of Hong Kong Pumped Storage Development Company, Limited, Guangdong (1,200MW)</li> <li>41.5% of Huaiji Power Project, Guangdong (98MW)</li> </ul>	5,992	9	6,337	11
<ul> <li>Asia-Pacific Region</li> <li>Developer, operator and investor in power projects since 1994</li> <li>Building a balanced portfolio of interests in generating assets in Australia, India, Taiwan and Thailand (3,729 equity MW)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>100% of Gujarat Paguthan Energy Corporation Private Limited, India (655MW)</li> <li>92% of Yallourn Energy Pty Limited, Australia (1,450MW)</li> <li>40% of Ho-Ping Power Company, Taiwan (1,320MW)</li> <li>22.4% of Electricity Generating Public Company Limited, Thailand (2,207MW)</li> <li>50% of BLCP Power Limited, Thailand (1,434MW)</li> <li>Electricity-Related Business</li> </ul>	16,285	25	8,030	14
Developer of electricity-related activities which use	Property redevelopment, engineering services,	1,442	2	1,621	3
CLP's existing assets and skills	telecommunications, information technology and research and development	1,176	L	1,021	J

# **OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE AND OUTLOOK**

# **Electricity Business in Hong Kong**

Total sales, including sales to the Chinese mainland, decreased by 0.5% in comparison with the same period last year.

Despite a very challenging economic environment in the first half of 2003, electricity sales to customers in Hong Kong decreased by only 0.1% compared to the same period in 2002. The decline was mainly due to a reduction of sales by 1% to the Commercial sector as a result of the cooler weather and the outbreak of the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in the second quarter. The most affected segments within this sector were tourism related services, retail, restaurants and transportation. Sales to the Manufacturing sector also recorded a 7.6% decrease, due to Hong Kong's continuing transformation from a manufacturing to a services-based economy. Electricity sales to the Residential sector increased by 2.4%, in line with the increase in the number of customers. Sales to the Infrastructure and Public Services sector (formerly described as Government and Others sector) recorded sales growth of 2.3%, which was supported by continuing investment in Hong Kong's infrastructure.

Our local and system demand reached historical peaks of 5,874MW and 7,646MW respectively in July.

The Infrastructure and Public Services sector has registered the largest growth among all our customer sectors during recent years. It is expected that demand from this sector will remain steady in the near future. For the Residential and Commercial sectors, future increase in demand will remain moderate. In particular, the Commercial sector still needs time to recover fully from the effect of SARS. Government and business initiatives to promote tourism should have a positive effect on the Commercial sector in the second half of the year. It is expected that demand for electricity in the Manufacturing sector will continue to weaken. Sales to the Chinese mainland totalled 1,153GWh. Shekou's demand grew by 14% in the first six months of the year. However, Guangdong Guang-Dian Power Grid Group Company Limited reduced its electricity purchase from CLP during the period.

In May 2003, CLP announced a special, one-off rebate package, amounting to HK\$460 million in total, to be provided to all CLP's customers in Hong Kong, as a move to support the local economy during the SARS outbreak. The Company was able to bring forward this rebate from the normal year-end cycle due to its excellent performance in managing costs. The rebate package resulted in about 95% of CLP's customers receiving a full half-month electricity rebate.



In February 2003, CLP introduced high voltage line cleaning by helicopter – improving speed and efficiency

To enhance supply quality and reliability, as well as to provide for demand created by new towns and infrastructure development projects in our supply area, CLP invested HK\$2,295 million in the transmission and distribution networks as well as in customer services and other supporting facilities during the period. Our unwavering commitment to a high standard of safety and health in the workplace continues to be recognised by the community. In June 2003, CLP received a total of eight awards in the Hong Kong Occupational Safety & Health Award 2003, jointly organised by the Hong Kong Occupational Safety & Health Council and the Labour Department.

CLP attaches great importance to environmental protection. Over the years, CLP has successfully implemented initiatives such as the marketing of ash as combustion by-products, reduction of energy wastage, control of industrial and chemical wastes, energy saving in power stations, and energy efficiency advice to customers. Recently, initiatives have been extended from the operational environment to the office environment – "green office" programmes. CLP has been awarded four Gold Wastewi\$e Logos and the Certificate of Merit from the Hong Kong Eco-Business Award in recognition of its efforts in this respect.

The current Scheme of Control Agreement, which regulates our Hong Kong electricity business, will expire in 2008. CLP is devoting considerable management resources to a thorough understanding of the implications of different regulatory systems for our Hong Kong electricity business. Working closely with all stakeholders, CLP aims to develop an outcome which will balance the legitimate interests of the Company, shareholders, employees and the community we serve. CLP and the Government have commenced discussions on the 2003 Scheme of Control Interim Review. We do not expect any major changes to the Scheme of Control Agreement arising from this regular five-yearly review process.

# Electricity Business in the Chinese Mainland and Asia-Pacific Region

The Group continues to grow its business through diversification and through investment in the electricity sector in selected markets outside Hong Kong. Significant strides towards this goal have been made in recent years through our subsidiaries, CLP Power International and CLP Power China. In order to improve organisational effectiveness, optimise resource allocation, and enhance synergies, the operations of these two subsidiaries have been integrated into a single business unit, CLP Power Asia, with effect from 1 July 2003.

# Chinese Mainland

CLP has a long history of successful investment in the Chinese mainland, dating back to the 1980's. Currently the largest foreign power investor in the Mainland, investment in the Chinese mainland continues to be an integral part of our business strategy.

The four power stations, operated by CLP Guohua Power Company Limited (CLP Guohua), namely, Beijing Yire (2 x 200MW), Panshan (2 x 500MW) and Sanhe (2 x 350MW) and Shenmu II (2 x 100MW), have been operating satisfactorily and achieved higher than budget electricity sales in the first six months. Approved tariffs for all the four power stations have been implemented. CLP Guohua accomplished a new milestone in the area of environmental protection with all four stations achieving full accreditation of ISO14001.

The 3,000MW joint venture in Shandong Province continues to make good progress. Unit 1 of Heze II (2 x 300MW) entered into commercial operation in February 2003, and Unit 2 completed performance and environmental tests. Unit 1 of Liaocheng (2 x 600MW) is targeted to commence performance tests in the third quarter, while initial firing of Unit 2 was achieved in April 2003. Shiheng I and II (4 x 300MW) have been operating satisfactorily.

Construction of the 2 x 300MW coal-fired Anshun II Power Station of Guizhou CLP Power Company Limited (Guizhou CLP Power) in Guizhou Province is ahead of schedule and within budget. Full commercial operation is anticipated in 2004. The station is one of the projects designated by the State Development and Reform Commission to provide electricity to Guangdong.



Anshun Power Station – Unit 1 started trial operation in March 2003

The Guangdong Daya Bay Nuclear Power Station operated smoothly with high level of safety and reliability in the first six months. The Station participated in and was awarded first place in Industrial Safety and Radiation Protection in the annual Reactor Safety Challenge Competition for 2002 organised by sister plants in France. It was also the first power station to attain ISO14001 accreditation in the electric power industry in the Chinese mainland.

Progress continues in the Huaiji joint venture, a hydroelectric project in Guangdong Province. The Chiangdiao Power Station was successfully commissioned, bringing the aggregate generating capacity of the joint venture to 82MW. The collection of electricity charges from the offtaker remains slow and requires intense monitoring. The Huaiji Project is an example of CLP's initiatives to support renewable energy development. CLP has also commenced feasibility studies for the development of a 100MW wind power station on Hailing Island, Yangjiang in Guangdong Province and a 100MW wind farm on Nanao Island off the Guangdong coast.

Following the approval of power sector reform and the restructuring of the State Power Corporation, the future direction of the power industry in the Chinese mainland is becoming clearer. The promotion of the Mainland power sector, including the continued introduction of modern management methods, together with increasing electricity demand resulting from China's strong economic growth, presents opportunities for further development of our electricity business in the Mainland. Building on our longstanding presence and experience in the Mainland electricity industry, we are well positioned to take advantage of such opportunities.

## Asia-Pacific Region

CLP has a significant presence in Australia, India, Taiwan and Thailand. With the completion of the acquisition of the remaining interests of Powergen UK plc (Powergen) in the joint venture companies relating to BLCP Power Limited (BLCP) (10%), Yallourn Energy (18.4%) and GPEC (20%) in January, April and June 2003 respectively, CLP now owns 100% of GPEC, 92% of Yallourn Energy and 50% of BLCP. As a consequence, GPEC and Yallourn Energy are now consolidated into the Group's accounts as subsidiary companies.



GPEC - now 100% owned by CLP

GPEC's 655 MW combined cycle power station has continued to operate well on the new supply of natural gas. It has achieved a high level of availability and has followed dispatch instructions from the Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB). In our Annual Report 2002, we noted GEB's difficulties in making timely payments to GPEC. We have since entered discussions with GEB on the power purchase agreement to secure a more stable and sustainable billing environment. These discussions are making progress and we hope that the position will improve this year.

Longer-term business prospects in India depend on the Government's ability to address the financial position of the State Electricity Boards and structural issues in the electricity supply industry. The Electricity Act that came into effect in June is a significant step in that direction.

In Australia, recently commissioned new generation capacity in Queensland has depressed pool prices in the National Electricity Market. However, Yallourn Energy's revenue is substantially protected from short-term pool price fluctuations by its forward contract position, and business performance to date has been in line with expectations. Major capital projects to upgrade the power station control and instrumentation systems and to develop new areas of the captive coal mine are progressing well.

Performance of the 2 x 660 MW coal-fired units at Ho-Ping in Taiwan, which entered commercial operation last year, has been satisfactory and met the guaranteed generation required under the power purchase agreement with the offtaker, Taipower. Since full commissioning of the two units, management effort has been directed towards risk mitigation, rectification of start-up technical



A 250-metre chimney towers over the newly operational Ho-Ping Power Station on Taiwan's east coast

problems, and continuous training of operation and maintenance staff.

As noted in our Annual Report 2002, CLP has been reviewing the strategic rationale of its shareholding in YTL Power International Berhad (YTL Power) in the absence of any movement towards privatization of the Malaysian power industry. Agreement has now been reached on the disposal of our 5% shareholding in YTL Power to its parent, YTL Corporation.

BLCP, which is developing a 1,434 MW coal-fired project at Map Ta Phut, Thailand, has reached the final stages of the financing arrangements for the project. Reclamation of the project site is near completion and construction of a 2 x 717MW coal-fired power station will commence in the third quarter of 2003. Upon commencement of commercial operation of the two units, which is expected to occur in 2006 and 2007 respectively, all power generated is to be supplied to the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand under a 25-year power purchase agreement.

CLP is concentrating on building meaningful and sustainable businesses in those countries in which we already have an established presence.

#### Electricity-Related Business

The Group's overriding focus is on the electricity business. However, where appropriate, CLP makes use of its existing assets and skills to explore opportunities to develop electricity-related activities in Hong Kong and the Chinese mainland.

In this respect, CLP's major project is the residential redevelopment of the former power station site at Hok Un, Kowloon, named Laguna Verde. This 50:50 joint venture project, between CLP and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cheung Kong (Holdings) Limited, comprises 4,735 flats, 1,692 parking spaces and 270,000 sq. ft. of commercial space. Over 90% of the residential units in the redevelopment had been sold by the end of June 2003.

CLP maintained steady momentum in its engineering service businesses, with a number of contracts secured in railway projects, power engineering, lighting projects, energy services, facility maintenance and customer installation services. Major customers tend to focus on their core businesses and outsource the maintenance services. CLP has made use of these opportunities to provide total engineering solutions to hotels, hospitals and other institutions to reduce energy spending.

CLP continues to own and operate "ChinaLink", which provides cross-border communications services to Hong Kong corporations operating in the Chinese mainland. PowerCom Network Hong Kong Limited, our joint venture with Cheung Kong Enterprises Limited, has made good progress in the roll-out of broadband services to Hong Kong customers using powerline telecommunications technology.

As a result of a strategic review on our 40% investment in Precision Marketing Inc. (PMI), a market research company which provides CLP with access to database management skills and technology, CLP sold all our shareholding in PMI in June 2003. The skill transfer from PMI to CLP has been substantially completed.

CLP Research Institute is sponsoring a new research project on the co-combustion of bamboo scaffolding and wood debris with coal. The research team at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology will study the effects of these materials on emissions of particulates into the air.

# **OUR PEOPLE**

With the addition of 359 employees of Yallourn Energy and GPEC, as a result of these companies being consolidated into the Group, we had a total of 4,694 employees (2002: 4,205) on 30 June 2003. Of these, 3,895 (2002: 3,747) were employed by our Scheme of Control business in Hong Kong. Total remuneration for the six months ended 30 June 2003 was HK\$1,117 million (2002: HK\$1,049 million), including retirement benefit costs of HK\$85 million.

During the recent SARS outbreak in Hong Kong and in some Chinese cities, every effort was made to ensure all employees in these locations were given appropriate protection against possible infection. In addition to providing face masks for employees, we put in place special arrangements such as an in-house education campaign, including information on personal hygiene, restricting business travel and allowing at-risk workers (for example pregnant employees) more flexible working arrangements. An internal website on SARS was launched in mid-March, shortly after the start of the outbreak, to ensure that employees were receiving accurate and reliable information so as to guard against the spread of the virus.



CLP volunteers support the Operation "UNITE" campaign to fight against SARS

# **FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**

# **Consolidated Financial Results**

The financial results for the six-month period to 30 June 2003, which are unaudited but have been reviewed by the auditors, incorporate two significant changes from the corresponding period in 2002 and from the financial year ended 31 December 2002:

- The consolidation of Yallourn Energy and GPEC into these interim results as a result of their reclassification as subsidiaries of CLP Holdings following the acquisition of Powergen's remaining shares in these two companies in the first half of 2003.
- The adoption of Hong Kong Statement of Standard Accounting Practice (SSAP) No. 12 (Revised) "Income Taxes", which became effective from 1 January 2003.

# **Earnings Attributable to Shareholders**

The contribution of each major activity to the Group earnings is analysed as follows:

		Increase/				
	2003			(Decrease)		
	HK\$M	HK\$M	HK\$M	HK\$M	%	
Scheme of Control earnings Non-Scheme of Control operating earnings Income from power projects outside Hong Kong Sales to the Chinese mainland	706 30	3,045	618 35	2,829	7.6	
Other businesses	(26)	710	(85)	568	25.0	
Unallocated net finance costs Unallocated Group expenses Hok Un redevelopment profit		(33) (59) 3,663 51		(41) (59) 3,297 134	11.1	
Group earnings attributable to shareholders		3,714		3,431	8.2	
Earnings per share, HK\$ Earnings per share excluding Hok Un		1.54		1.42	8.2	
redevelopment profit, HK\$		1.52		1.37	11.1	
	6 months ended 30 June					
			2003	2002	%	

EBITDA <sup>1</sup> , HK\$M			
Including Hok Un redevelopment profit	6,150	5,364	14.6
Excluding Hok Un redevelopment profit	6,087	5,201	17.0

<sup>1</sup> EBITDA = earnings before interest (including interest on borrowed capital and development fund, and a charge based on nonshareholders' investments financing net fixed assets under the Scheme of Control), taxation borne by the shareholders, depreciation and amortisation. During the six-month period to 30 June 2003, the Scheme of Control (SoC) electricity unit sales to local customers dropped by 0.1% while total unit sales, which included sales to the Chinese Mainland, decreased by 0.5% as compared to same period last year. Turnover registered a 0.6% increase due to consolidation of revenue from Yallourn Energy and GPEC.

The operating earnings were HK\$3,663 million, which was HK\$366 million higher than the corresponding period last year, representing an increase of 11.1%. Total earnings, which include Hok Un redevelopment profit increased by 8.2% to HK\$3,714 million.

SoC earnings increased by 7.6% to HK\$3,045 million as a combined effect of lower interest borne by shareholders and investments in fixed assets to meet new customer demand and to improve quality of services. The non-SoC operating earnings increased by HK\$142 million. The increase in non-SoC operating earnings was mainly due to full six months operation of Ho-Ping Power Station, and improved performance from CLP Guohua and Yallourn Energy.

Earnings per share increased by 8.2%, the same as the increase in total group earnings. Excluding the Hok Un redevelopment profit, earnings per share increased by 11.1%.

#### Significant Investments

Fixed assets of the Group of HK\$36,550 million at 31 December 2002 mainly consisted of investment in the transmission and distribution network for the core Hong Kong electricity business. With the consolidation of Yallourn Energy and GPEC, electricity generation and related fixed assets amounting to HK\$13,438 million are included into the balance of the fixed assets at 30 June 2003. During the six months, the Group also invested HK\$2,392 million (2002: HK\$1,866 million), of which HK\$2,295 million (2002: HK\$1,857 million) was made by CLP Power, in various fixed assets. As a result, after deducting depreciation and disposal, the Group's fixed assets increased to HK\$51,293 million, an increase of 40.3% compared to 31 December 2002. Capital expenditure by associated Hong Kong generating companies for the six months was HK\$606 million (2002: HK\$288 million).

The Group's investments in each geographical segment are shown below:

	30 June	e 2003	31 December 2002		
	HK\$M	%	HK\$M	%	
Electricity Business					
Hong Kong	42,884	64	42,395	72	
Chinese mainland	5,992	9	6,337	11	
Asia-Pacific region	16,285	25	8,030	14	
	65,161	98	56,762	97	
Property and other businesses	1,442	2	1,621	3	
	66,603	100	58,383	100	

# **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

As at 30 June 2003, the Group had liquid funds of HK\$572 million. About 80% of these liquid funds were denominated in foreign currency mainly held by subsidiaries in Australia and India. The remainder was in Hong Kong dollars.

Financing facilities totalling HK\$26.6 billion were available to the Group, including HK\$9 billion for Yallourn Energy and GPEC. Out of the facilities available, HK\$18.6 billion had been drawn down, out of which HK\$7.5 billion were incurred by Yallourn Energy and GPEC. Financing facilities totalling HK\$15.8 billion were available to CAPCO of which HK\$11.1 billion were drawn down.

Total debt to total capital of the Group at 30 June 2003 was 32.8% and interest cover was 14.5 times. The increase in gearing ratio is due to the consolidation of the debts of Yallourn Energy and GPEC, which are without recourse to CLP Holdings.

# **Debt Profile**

The charts below show the type, interest rate, maturity and currency profiles of borrowings of the Group and CAPCO at 30 June 2003:

		Available Facility in Percentage (Note 1)								
CLP Group Total HK\$26.6 bn		9%	9% 56%			11%	11% 24%			
	CLP Group + CAPCO Total HK\$42.4 bn	13%	6% 4%		51%		7%	19%	ó	
Export Credits US Dollar Notes Private Placement Term Loans Medium Term Notes	CLP Group Total HK\$18.6 bn CLP Group + CAPCO	13%	nce in Percer		5%			15%	7%	
Money Market Line	Total HK\$29.7 bn	<mark>5%</mark> 8%	5%		64%			10%	8%	
		Interest F		ercentage (Not	:e 2)				_	
	CLP Group	49%				5	51%			
Floating Rate	CLP Group + CAPCO	44%				56%				
		Maturity	in Percentage							
Within 1 Year 1 – 2 Years	CLP Group	9% <mark>3</mark> %	/ <mark>0</mark>	57%			3	1%		
2 – 5 Years* Beyond 5 Years	CLP Group + CAPCO	20	% 8%		48%			24%		
		* Including lo	an drawdown with cu	rrent tenor less than 1	year under revolving	g facility with final ma	aturity fallin	g between 2	!-5 years.	
AUD EUR		Currency	in Percentage	e (Notes 3 & 4)						
INR USD	CLP Group		45%		8% 1 <mark>%</mark>	21%		25%		
HKD Foreign Currency	CLP Group + CAPCO		28%	5%1 <mark>% 12%</mark>	26	%	2	28%		
Hedged into HKD										

Notes: (1) For the Medium Term Note Programme, only the amount (HK\$ 2,840 million) of the Notes issued was included in the total amount of Available Facility.

(2) 75% of Yallourn Energy and GPEC's combined loans are at fixed rates. With the consolidation of these two subsidiaries, the percentage of fixed rate loans in the CLP Group is 51%, compared to 35% if Yallourn Energy and GPEC were not consolidated.

(3) The Australian dollar loans were mainly incurred by Yallourn Energy to refinance its project debts in 2001 and by CLP Holdings to hedge against currency exposure of the Group's investment in Yallourn Energy.

(4) The loans in Euros and Indian Rupees were drawn by GPEC.

### Financing

The business expansion of the Group, in particular, the capital expenditure programmes of CLP Power and CAPCO, are funded by bank loans, issuance of debt securities and cash flow from operations.

The Group adopts a prudent approach to all our financial arrangements, while at the same time aiming to achieve cost efficient funding. In June 2003, CLP Power issued HK\$500 million 4.45% fixed rate notes due 2013, through its wholly-owned subsidiary, CLP Power Hong Kong Financing Limited. The issue was made under the Medium Term Note Programme set up by CLP Power Hong Kong

Financing Limited in 2002. Under the Programme, notes in an aggregate amount of up to US\$1.5 billion may be issued and will be unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed by CLP Power. As at 30 June 2003, about HK\$2,840 million notes have been issued under the Programme.

# **Credit Rating**

The Group's financial strength is reflected in its ratings assigned by Standard & Poor's (S&P) and Moody's. The current credit ratings of CLP Holdings and CLP Power are set out below:

					HKSAR		
	CLP Holdings		CLP Power		Government		
	S&P	Moody's	S&P Moody's		S&P	Moody's	
Long-term Rating					   		
Foreign currency	A+	A3	A+	A3	A+	A3	
Outlook	Stable	Positive	Stable	Positive	Stable	Positive	
					l I		
Local currency	A+	Aa2	A+	Aa1	AA-	Aa3	
Outlook	Stable	Stable	Stable	Stable	Negative	Stable	
Short-term Rating					-   		
Foreign currency	A-1	P-1	A-1	P-1	A-1	P-1	
Local currency	A-1	_	A-1	-	A-1+	-	

These credit ratings are supported by the strong cash flow generating ability and prudent financial structure of the Group. Our premier credit ratings can facilitate and enhance our position in various local and overseas business activities, including fund raising, investment and new business opportunities of the Group.

# **Risk Management**

The Group uses different derivative instruments to manage its exposure to foreign currency, interest rate risks and the price risk associated with the sales and purchases of electricity in Australia, with an objective to minimise the impact of exchange rate, interest rate and electricity price fluctuations on earnings, reserves and tariff charges to customers. All transactions are made with counterparties with acceptable credit quality and a limit is assigned to each counterparty for monitoring the credit exposure. Other than certain energy trading activities engaged by Yallourn Energy, all derivative instruments are employed solely for hedging purposes.

#### Interest Rate Risks

The Group mainly utilises interest rate swaps to manage its interest rate risks. Our Australian subsidiary, Yallourn Energy, also employs forward rate agreements and interest rate swaptions to adjust the interest rate mix within predetermined parameters. All these forward rate agreements and interest rate swaption contracts will mature within one year.

#### Foreign Currency Risks

The Group's foreign currency exposures mainly arise from the loan repayment/interest payment obligations, purchases of goods and services, fuel-related payments and overseas investment activities. Apart from using forward foreign exchange contracts, currency swaps and options to manage our currency exposure, the Group also adopts an approach of financing its investments by borrowings of matching currency where appropriate to mitigate the currency risk.

#### Electricity Sales and Purchases Risks

In Australia, Yallourn Energy uses hedging contracts to manage its exposure to price fluctuations in the electricity market. It also engages in limited energy trading activities.

### Off-Balance Sheet Financial Instruments

As at 30 June 2003, the Group had gross outstanding derivative instruments amounting to HK\$46.7 billion (HK\$49 billion for the Group and CAPCO combined), out of which HK\$0.4 billion were energy trading contracts. The breakdown by types and maturity profile of the Group and CAPCO's derivative instruments are shown in the charts below:



#### Types and Maturity Profile of Off-Balance Sheet Financial Instruments as at 30 June 2003

The fair value of the Group's outstanding derivative instruments at 30 June 2003 was HK\$137.2 million (HK\$41.1 million for the Group and CAPCO combined), which represents the net proceeds we would receive if these contracts were closed out at 30 June 2003. Out of

the total fair value, HK\$0.6 million was related to energy trading activities engaged by Yallourn Energy.

The Group has no significant operating lease commitments or sale and leaseback arrangements.