

#### **Corporate Governance Practices**

The Company is committed to maintaining high standards of corporate governance. The Company recognises that sound and effective corporate governance practices are fundamental to the smooth, effective and transparent operation of a company and its ability to attract investment, protect the rights of shareholders and stakeholders, and enhance shareholder value.

The Company has complied with the applicable code provisions in the Code on Corporate Governance Practices ("Code") set out in Appendix 14 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited ("Listing Rules") throughout the year ended 31st December 2007 except as noted hereunder.

#### **Board of Directors**

The Board, led by the Chairman, is responsible for the approval and monitoring of Group-wide strategies and policies, approval of annual budgets and business plans, evaluating the performance of the Group, and oversight of management. Management is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Group under the leadership of the Group Managing Director.

As at 31st December 2007, the Board comprised sixteen Directors as follows:

#### **Executive Directors**

Mr. Canning Fok Kin-ning (Chairman)

Mr. Tso Kai-sum

(Group Managing Director)

Mrs. Susan Chow Woo Mo-fong(1)

Mr. Andrew John Hunter

Mr. Kam Hing-lam(2) (3)

Mr. Francis Lee Lan-yee

(Director & General Manager (Engineering))

Mr. Victor Li Tzar-kuoi(3)

Mr. Neil Douglas McGee

(Group Finance Director)

Mr. Frank John Sixt

Mr. Wan Chi-tin

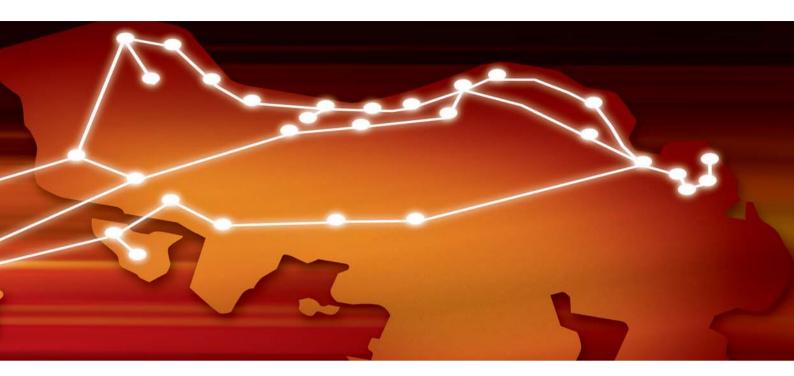
(Director & General Manager (Corporate Development))<sup>(4)</sup>

#### Non-executive Directors

Mr. Ronald Joseph Arculli

Mr. George Colin Magnus

Mr. Ewan Yee Lup-yuen(5)



#### Independent Non-executive Directors

Mr. Holger Kluge

Mr. Ralph Raymond Shea

Mr. Wong Chung-hin

#### Notes:

- Mrs. Susan Chow Woo Mo-fong is also Alternate Director to Mr. Canning Fok Kin-ning and Mr. Frank John Sixt.
- (2) Mr. Kam Hing-lam appointed Mr. Chan Loi Shun as his Alternate with effect from 11th February 2008.
- (3) Mr. Kam Hing-lam is an uncle of Mr. Victor Li Tzar-kuoi.
- (4) Mr. Wan Chi-tin's title has been changed to Director of Engineering (Planning & Development) with effect from 1st March 2008.
- (5) Mr. Ewan Yee Lup-yuen resigned as a Director on 2nd January 2008.
- (6) Mr. Yuen Sui-see was appointed an Executive Director on 1st March 2008

Biographical details of the Directors are set out in "The Board of Directors" section on pages 22 to 23 of the Annual Report.

The Board meets at least four times a year. Additional board meeting will be held when warranted. Regular meetings of a year are scheduled during the last quarter of the preceding year providing Directors with adequate time to plan their schedules to attend. The Directors may attend meetings in person, by telephone or other electronic means or by their alternate directors in

accordance with the Company's articles of association. Throughout the year, Directors also participate in the consideration and approval of matters of the Company by way of written resolutions circulated to Directors together with supporting explanatory write-up, coupled with briefings from the Group Managing Director, the Group Finance Director and the Company Secretary as required. Directors are required to declare their interests, if any, in the matters to be considered by them during board meetings and in the circular resolutions.

Directors at all times have full access to information on the Group. They have independent access to senior management for information on the Group and unrestricted access to the services of the Company Secretary. Further, a procedure has been established to enable Directors to seek independent professional advice whenever deemed necessary by them at the Company's expense.

Directors receive at least 14 days prior written notice of a regular meeting and may propose matters for discussion to be included in the agenda. An agenda with supporting board papers is sent to Directors no less than three days prior to a regular meeting.



The Board held five meetings during the 2007 financial year. The record of attendance of each Director is as follows:

	Name of Director	Number of Meetings Attended
<b>Executive Directors</b>	Mr. Canning Fok Kin-ning (Chairman)	5
	Mr. Tso Kai-sum (Group Managing Director)	5
	Mrs. Susan Chow Woo Mo-fong	5
	Mr. Andrew John Hunter	5
	Mr. Kam Hing-lam	4
	Mr. Francis Lee Lan-yee	5
	Mr. Victor Li Tzar-kuoi	4
	Mr. Neil Douglas McGee	5
	Mr. Frank John Sixt	5*
	Mr. Wan Chi-tin	5
Non-executive Directors	Mr. Ronald Joseph Arculli	4
	Mr. George Colin Magnus	5
	Mr. Ewan Yee Lup-yuen	5
Independent Non-executive Directors	Mr. Holger Kluge	3
	Mr. Ralph Raymond Shea	5
	Mr. Wong Chung-hin	5

<sup>\*</sup>One meeting was attended by his Alternate Director.

The minutes of board meetings are prepared by the Company Secretary with details of the decisions reached, any concerns raised and dissenting views expressed. The draft minutes are sent to all Directors within a reasonable time after each meeting for their comment before being formally signed by the chairman of the meeting. Copies of the final version of board minutes are sent to Directors for their information and records. The signed minutes are kept in safe custody by the Company Secretary and are available for inspection by Directors.

During the year, the Chairman and the Non-executive Directors held two meetings without the presence of the Executive Directors.

As Directors, including the Non-executive Directors, are required to retire and be subject to re-election by shareholders every three years, the Non-executive Directors have not been appointed for a specific term as provided for under Code A.4.1 of the Code.

From 15th October 2007, in order to comply fully with the Code, the Non-executive Directors have been appointed on annual twelve-month basis.

Directors are required to retire from office by rotation and are subject to re-election by shareholders at the annual general meeting once every three years pursuant to the articles of association of the Company. Directors retiring by rotation and offering themselves for re-election at the forthcoming annual general meeting are Mr. Canning Fok Kin-ning, Mr. Tso Kai-sum, Mr. Ronald Joseph Arculli, Mrs. Susan Chow Woo Mo-fong, Mr. Andrew John Hunter, Mr. Kam Hing-lam, Mr. Holger Kluge, Mr. Victor Li Tzar-kuoi and Mr. George Colin Magnus. Additional Directors appointed subsequent to the annual general meeting are required to retire and offer themselves for re-election at the next annual general meeting. Mr Yuen Sui-see, a Director appointed on 1st March 2008, will retire in accordance with this provision at the forthcoming annual general meeting and will offer himself for re-election. None of the abovementioned Directors has a service contract which is not determinable by the Company within one year without payment of compensation (other than statutory compensation).

The Chairman and the Group Managing Director may recommend candidates for election to the Board. The principal consideration is to build an effective and complementary board with the expertise, skills and experience relevant to the Group's businesses. Potential candidates for Independent Non-executive Director will also be reviewed to determine whether they are independent according to the requirements of the Listing Rules, and their ability to devote sufficient time to Board and committee meetings. Credentials

of candidates are put forward to the Board for consideration in respect of any proposed appointment of new Director. During 2007, no additional Director was appointed by the Board.

Newly appointed Directors receive briefings and a package of orientation materials on the operations and businesses of the Group, together with information relating to duties and responsibilities of directors under statutory regulations and the Listing Rules. The Company Secretary updates Directors on the latest developments and changes to the Listing Rules and the applicable legal and regulatory requirements regarding subjects necessary in the discharge of their duties. As part of the continuous professional development exercise, Directors are invited to seminars on corporate governance and directors' duties conducted by members of the legal profession.

#### **Directors' Securities Transactions**

The Board of Directors of the Company has adopted the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors ("Model Code") set out in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules as the Group's code of conduct regarding Directors' securities transactions. All Directors have confirmed following specific enquiry that they have complied with the required standards set out in the Model Code throughout the year ended 31st December 2007.

Senior managers who are likely to be in possession of unpublished price sensitive information regarding the Company and its securities are also required to comply with the Model Code.



# Directors' Responsibility for Preparing Accounts and publishing required disclosures

#### Annual and Interim Reports and Accounts

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility to prepare financial statements for each half and full financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the Group. The annual and interim results of the Company are published in a timely manner within three months and two months respectively after the end of the relevant periods.

#### **Accounting Policies**

The Directors consider that in preparing financial statements, the Group ensures statutory requirements are met and applies appropriate accounting policies that are consistently adopted and makes judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent in accordance with the applicable accounting standards.

#### **Accounting Records**

The Directors are responsible for ensuring the Group keeps proper accounting records which disclose at any time the financial position of the Group upon which financial statements of the Group could be prepared in accordance with statutory requirements and the Group's accounting policies.

#### Safeguarding Assets

The Directors are responsible for taking all reasonable and necessary steps to safeguard the assets of the Group and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities within the Group.

#### Going Concern

The Directors, having made appropriate enquiries, consider that the Group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and are not aware of material uncertainties

relating to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt upon the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. The Group's financial statements have accordingly been prepared on a going concern basis.

#### Disclosure

The Board is aware of the requirements under the applicable Listing Rules and statutory regulations with regard to the timely and proper disclosure of price sensitive information, announcements and financial disclosures and authorises their publication as and when required.

# **Chairman and Group Managing Director**

The positions of the Chairman (Mr. Canning Fok Kin-ning) and the Group Managing Director (Mr. Tso Kai-sum) are held by separate individuals.

The Chairman is responsible for providing leadership to, and overseeing the functioning and effective running of, the Board to ensure that the Board acts in the best interests of the Group. The Chairman approves Board meeting agendas and ensures that Board meetings are planned and conducted effectively. In addition to Board meetings, the Chairman holds meetings with Executive Directors and at least one meeting annually with Non-executive Directors without the presence of Executive Directors. The Chairman also acts in an advisory capacity to the Group Managing Director in all matters covering the interests and management of the Group.

The Group Managing Director, working with the executive management team of each operating unit, is responsible for managing the businesses of the Group, attending to the formulation and successful implementation of Group policies and assuming full accountability to the Board for all Group operations. The Group Managing Director attends to developing

strategic operating plans and is directly responsible for maintaining the operational performance of the Group. Working with the Group Finance Director, other Executive Directors and the general manager of each operational division, he ensures that the funding requirements of the businesses are met and closely monitors the operating and financial results of the businesses against plans and budgets, taking remedial action when necessary. He maintains an ongoing dialogue with the Chairman and all other Directors to keep them informed of all major business development and issues. He is also responsible for building and maintaining an effective team to support him in his role.

#### **Independent Non-executive Directors**

The Board must satisfy itself that an Independent Non-executive Director does not have any material relationship with the Group. The Board is also guided by the criteria of independence as set out in the Listing Rules in determining the independence of Directors.

Each of Messrs. Holger Kluge, Ralph Raymond Shea and Wong Chung-hin, Independent Non-executive Directors of the Company, has provided to the Company a confirmation of his independence pursuant to Rule 3.13 of the Listing Rules.

The Board continues to consider all the Independent Non-executive Directors to be independent.

# **Directors' Interests in Contracts of Significance**

No contract of significance to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries was a party and in which a Director of the Company had a material interest subsisted at the end of or at any time during the year ended 31st December 2007.



The Company's annual general meeting is a main channel of communication between Directors and shareholders.



#### **Directors' Interests in Securities of the Company**

At 31st December 2007, the interests of the Directors in the issued share capital of the Company and its associated corporations (within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance ("SF Ordinance")) as recorded in the register required to be kept under section 352 of the SF Ordinance were as follows:

#### Long Positions in Shares of the Company

Name of Director	Capacity	Nature of Interests	Number of Shares Held	Total	Approximate % of Shareholding
Francis Lee Lan-yee	Beneficial owner	Personal	739	739	≃ 0%
Ronald Joseph Arculli	Interest of controlled corporation	Corporate	2,011	2,011	≃ 0%
Victor Li Tzar-kuoi	Interest of child or spouse	Family	151,000 )		
	Beneficiary of trusts	Other	829,599,612 ) (Notes 1 and 2) )	829,750,612	≈ 38.87%

#### Notes:

(1) These shares are held by subsidiaries of Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited ("CKI").

The discretionary beneficiaries of each of The Li Ka-Shing Unity Discretionary Trust ("DT1") and another discretionary trust ("DT2") are, inter alia, Mr. Victor Li Tzar-kuoi, his wife and children, and Mr. Richard Li Tzar-kai. Each of Li Ka-Shing Unity Trustee Corporation Limited ("TDT1", which is the trustee of DT1) and Li Ka-Shing Unity Trustcorp Limited ("TDT2", which is the trustee of DT2) holds units in The Li Ka-Shing Unity Trust ("UT1") but is not entitled to any interest or share in any particular property comprising the trust assets of the said unit trust. Li Ka-Shing Unity Trustee Company Limited ("TUT1") as trustee of UT1 and its related companies in which TUT1 as trustee of UT1 is entitled to exercise or control the exercise of one-third or more of the voting power at their general meetings ("TUT1 related companies") hold more than one-third of the issued share capital of Cheung Kong (Holdings) Limited ("CKH"). Certain subsidiaries of CKH in turn together hold more than one-third of the issued share capital of Hutchison Whampoa Limited ("HWL"). A subsidiary of HWL in turn holds more than one-third of the issued share capital of CKI.

The entire issued share capital of TUT1 and of the trustees of DT1 and DT2 are owned by Li Ka-Shing Unity Holdings Limited ("Unity Holdco."). Each of Mr. Li Ka-shing, Mr. Victor Li Tzar-kuoi and Mr. Richard Li Tzar-kai is interested in one-third of the entire issued share capital of Unity Holdco. TUT1 is only interested in the shares of CKH by reason only of its obligation and power to hold interests in those shares in its ordinary course of business as trustee and, when performing its functions as trustee, exercises its power to hold interests in the shares of CKH independently without any reference to Unity Holdco or any of Mr. Li Ka-shing, Mr. Victor Li Tzar-kuoi and Mr. Richard Li Tzar-kai as a holder of the shares of Unity Holdco as aforesaid.

By virtue of the above and as a discretionary beneficiary of each of DT1 and DT2 and as a Director of CKH, Mr. Victor Li Tzar-kuoi is taken to have a duty of disclosure in relation to the shares of CKH held by TUT1 as trustee of UT1 and TUT1 related companies, the shares of HWL held by the subsidiaries of CKH, the shares of CKI held by the subsidiary of HWL and the shares of the Company held by the subsidiaries of CKI under the SF Ordinance as a Director of the Company. Although Mr. Richard Li Tzar-kai is interested in one-third of the entire issued share capital of Unity Holdco and is a discretionary beneficiary of each of DT1 and DT2, he is not a director of CKH and has no duty of disclosure in relation to the shares of CKH held by TUT1 as trustee of UT1 and TUT1 related companies under the SF Ordinance.

(2) Mr. Victor Li Tzar-kuoi, by virtue of his interests as described in Note (1) above and as a Director of the Company, is also deemed to be interested in the shares of the subsidiaries and associated companies of the Company held through the Company under the SF Ordinance.

Save as disclosed above, at 31st December 2007, none of the Directors or chief executives had any interests or short positions in the shares, underlying shares and debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the SF Ordinance) which were required to be notified to the Company and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited ("Stock Exchange") pursuant to Divisions 7 and 8 of Part XV of the SF Ordinance (including interest and short positions which they were taken or deemed to have under such provisions of the SF Ordinance) or which were recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under Section 352 of the SF Ordinance, or which were required to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code.

#### **Directors' Interests in Competing Business**

During the year of 2007, the interests of Directors in businesses which may compete with the Group's business of investing overseas in power generation, transmission and distribution and other infrastructure facilities ("Overseas Business") were as follows:

Name of Director	Name of Company	Nature of Interests
Canning Fok Kin-ning	Hutchison Whampoa Limited	Executive Director
	Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited	Executive Director
Tso Kai-sum	Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited	Executive Director
Susan Chow Woo Mo-fong	Hutchison Whampoa Limited	Executive Director
	Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited	Executive Director
Andrew John Hunter	Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited	Executive Director
	Spark Infrastructure Group	Non-executive Director
Kam Hing-lam	Hutchison Whampoa Limited	Executive Director
	Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited	Executive Director
	Spark Infrastructure Group	Non-executive Director
Victor Li Tzar-kuoi	Hutchison Whampoa Limited	Executive Director
	Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited	Executive Director
George Colin Magnus	Hutchison Whampoa Limited	Non-executive Director
	Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited	Non-executive Director
Frank John Sixt	Hutchison Whampoa Limited	Executive Director
	Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited	Executive Director

The Board is of the view that the Group is capable of carrying on its Overseas Business independent of, and at arm's length from the businesses of the above companies. When making decisions on the Overseas Business, the above Directors, in the performance of their duties as Directors of the Company, have acted and will continue to act in the commercial best interest of the Group and all its shareholders.



#### **Remuneration Committee**

The Remuneration Committee is chaired by the Chairman, Mr. Canning Fok Kin-ning with Mr. Ralph Raymond Shea and Mr. Wong Chung-hin, both Independent Non-executive Directors as members.

The principal responsibilities of the Remuneration Committee include reviewing and considering the Company's policy for remuneration of Executive Directors and senior management, and determining their remuneration packages. The Remuneration Committee reports to the Board of its decisions and recommendations at the next Board meeting after the meeting of the Committee. Committee members may seek independent professional advice at the expense of the Company to discharge their duties as members of the Committee. The terms of reference of the Remuneration Committee are published on the Company's website.

The Group's human resources division assists the Remuneration Committee by providing relevant remuneration data and market conditions for the Committee's consideration. The remuneration of Executive Directors and senior management is determined with reference to the Company's performance and profitability, as well as remuneration benchmarks in the industry and the prevailing market conditions. Remuneration is performance-based and coupled with an incentive system is competitive to attract and retain talented employees.

The Remuneration Committee held one meeting in 2007 which was attended by all members. During the meeting, the Committee considered and determined the performance-based bonus payable to the full time Executive Directors and senior management of the Group in respect of the 2007 financial year and their remuneration for the next

year. None of the Executive Directors or senior management participated in the determination of their own remuneration.

#### **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee comprises four members. It is chaired by Mr. Wong Chung-hin (an Independent Non-executive Director) and the other members are Mr. Ronald Joseph Arculli (a Non-executive Director), Mr. Holger Kluge (an Independent Non-executive Director) and Mr. Ralph Raymond Shea (an Independent Non-executive Director). None of the Committee members is a partner or former partner of KPMG, the Group's external auditors.

The Audit Committee reports directly to the Board of Directors and its principal responsibilities include the review and supervision of the Group's financial reporting and internal control systems and the review of the Company's financial statements. The Audit Committee also meets regularly with the Company's external auditors to discuss the audit process and accounting issues. The chairman of the Committee summarises the subjects discussed and decisions or recommendations made in a written report to the Board after each meeting. Committee members may seek independent professional advice at the expense of the Company to discharge their duties as members of the Committee. The terms of reference of the Audit Committee are published on the Company's website.

The Audit Committee held two meetings in 2007.

The record of attendance of its members is as follows:

Name of Member	Number of Meetings Attended
Mr. Wong Chung-hin (Chairman)	2
Mr. Ronald Joseph Arculli	2
Mr. Holger Kluge	2
Mr. Ralph Raymond Shea	2

During those meetings, the Audit Committee reviewed and considered the Group accounts and Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2006, the audit fee for the 2006 Group accounts, the re-appointment of auditors, the internal control assessment declaration for the year 2006 in respect of the effectiveness of the system of internal controls of the Group made by the Group Managing Director and Group Finance Director, the Group's risk management report as of December 2006, non-audit services provided by KPMG in the year 2006, internal audit plan for 2007, the accounts for the six months ended 30th June 2007, the Group's policy on hiring employees or former employees of the external auditors, and all internal audit reports compiled during the year. Representatives from KPMG, the external auditors, were invited to attend one of the meetings and they discussed the 2006 audited accounts and various accounting issues with the Committee. Committee members also considered the external audit plan for the 2007 financial statements which was circulated to them for review.

# **Internal Control and Risk Management**Introduction

The Board has overall responsibility for the Group's system of internal control and reviews its effectiveness to ensure that policies and procedures in place for the identification and management of risks are adequate.

The Audit Committee assists the Board in meeting its responsibility for maintaining an effective system of internal controls. The Committee reviews all material controls, including financial, operational and compliance controls and risk management functions. It reviews the process by which the Group evaluates its control environment and its risk assessment process, and the way in which business and control risks are managed. It also reviews the annual work plans of the Group Manager - Internal Audit, and considers

the report of the Group Managing Director and Group Finance Director to the Committee on the effectiveness of internal controls in the Group business operations. These reviews and reports are taken into consideration by the Committee when it makes its recommendation to the Board for approval of the annual consolidated financial statements.

#### Internal Control Environment

The Group's management encourages a risk aware and control conscious environment throughout the Company. Management sets objectives, performance targets and policies for the management of key risks including strategic planning, business operations, acquisitions, investments, expenditure control, treasury, environment, health and safety, and customer service. Defined levels of responsibility and authority together with reporting procedures have been put in place.

Full-time Executive Directors review operational and financial reports and key operating statistics of each division and hold regular meetings with the division general managers to review their reports.

Full-time Executive Directors and senior executives are appointed to the boards and board committees of all material operating subsidiaries and associates for monitoring the operations of those companies. There is a comprehensive system for reporting information by those companies to the Company's management.

Budgets are prepared annually by the management of the operating units and are subject to review and approval firstly by the Group Managing Director and then by the Board. Re-forecasts of operating results for the current year are prepared on a quarterly basis, reviewed for differences to the budget and for approval by the Executive Directors.



The Group Finance Director has established guidelines and procedures for the approval and control of expenditures. Operating expenditures are subject to overall budget control, with approval levels being set by reference to the level of authority of each executive and officer. Capital expenditures are also subject to overall control within the approved budget of individual projects with more specific control and approval being required for overspending, unbudgeted expenditures and material expenditures within the approved budget. Monthly reports of actual versus budgeted and approved expenditures are also reviewed.

The Group Finance Director is in charge of the treasury function overseeing the Group's investment and lending activities. Treasury regularly reports on the Group's cash and liquid investments, borrowings and movements thereto, outstanding contingent liabilities and financial derivatives commitments. The Board has approved and adopted treasury policies to manage the financial risks of the Group and the operational risks associated with such risk management activities.

The Group Manager-Internal Audit, reporting to the Group Finance Director, provides independent assurance as to the existence and effectiveness of the risk management activities and controls in the Group's business operations. Using risk assessment methodology and taking into account the dynamics of the Group's activities, Internal Audit prepares its yearly audit plan which is reviewed and approved by the Audit Committee. Internal Audit's reports on the Group's operations are reviewed by the Audit Committee. Internal Audit follows up on its reports to ensure that its recommendations are implemented by the operating units. The scope of work performed by Internal Audit includes financial and operations review, recurring and

unscheduled audits, fraud investigation and productivity efficiency reviews. With the assistance of Internal Audit, the Group Managing Director and Group Finance Director assess the Group's internal control system, formulate an opinion on the system, and report their findings to the Audit Committee and the Board.

Each division is required to undertake risk identification, mitigation and monitoring by compiling and updating on an ongoing basis a risk register taking into account emerging issues and new regulations. An internal control self assessment has also been established requiring division general managers and department heads to half-yearly assess the effectiveness of controls over the operations within their areas of accountability and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Reports from the external auditors on internal controls, if any, are presented to the Audit Committee. These reports are considered and reviewed and the appropriate action taken if required.

The Group Managing Director and Group Finance Director have the responsibility of developing and implementing risk mitigation strategies including the deployment of insurance to transfer the financial impact of risk. The Company Secretary, working with the operating units, is responsible for arranging appropriate insurance coverage for the Group.

#### **Code of Conduct**

The Group places great emphasis on employees' ethical standards and integrity in all aspects of its operations. Employees are required to adhere to the standards set out in the Group's Code of Conduct.

# External Auditors Independence

An independence confirmation has been obtained from KPMG, the external auditors, confirming that they

have been for the year ended 31st December 2007 independent of the Group in accordance with the independence requirements of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

#### Rotation of engagement partner

KPMG adopts a policy of rotating every seven years the engagement partner servicing its client companies. A rotation took effect for the audit of the 2007 financial statements.

#### Reporting Responsibilities

The reporting responsibilities of KPMG are stated in the Independent Auditor's Report on page 49 of the Annual Report.

#### Remuneration

An analysis of the fees of KPMG and other external auditors is shown in note 8 to the financial statements on page 70 of the Annual Report.

#### **Shareholders**

The Company has established a range of communication channels between itself and its shareholders, investors and other stakeholders. These include the annual general meeting, the annual and interim reports, notices, announcements and circulars, the Company's website at www.heh.com and meetings with investors and analysts.

#### 2007 Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting is a main channel of communication between Directors and shareholders. The 2007 Annual General Meeting was held on 10th May 2007. The notice of meeting, the Company's annual report and the circular containing information on the proposed resolutions were sent to shareholders more than 21 days prior to the meeting. The chairman

and members of the Audit Committee and the Remuneration Committee were available to answer questions from the shareholders. At the meeting, a separate resolution was proposed by the Chairman in respect of each substantially separate issue, and voting on each resolution was conducted by way of a poll. The procedure for demanding a poll by shareholders was set out in the circular despatched together with the Company's annual report, and the poll voting procedure was explained fully to shareholders during the meeting. Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited, the Company's share registrar, was appointed as scrutineer to monitor and count the poll votes cast at the meeting. The resolutions proposed at the meeting and the percentage of votes cast in favour of them are set out below:-

- Statement of accounts and the reports of the directors and auditors for the year ended 31st December 2006 (99.9928%);
- Declaration of a final dividend of HK\$1.27 per share (99.9999%);
- Election of Messrs. Francis Lee Lan-yee and Frank John Sixt as Directors (99.5378% and 99.5415% respectively);
- Re-appointment of KPMG as auditors and authorisation of Directors to fix their remuneration (99.9940%);
- General mandates to Directors to issue additional shares of the Company (61.9887%) and to repurchase shares of the Company (99.9969%), and extension of the general mandate to issue shares (70.4315%).

The results of the poll were posted on the Stock Exchange's and the Company's websites on the same day of the meeting and published in the newspapers on the next day.



#### **Extraordinary General Meeting**

An Extraordinary General Meeting was held on 27th December 2007 for the purpose of approving the acquisition of 50% of the entire issued share capital of Stanley Power Inc. from Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited ("CKI"). A circular containing information on the proposed resolution, including the respective advice of the independent board committee and the independent financial adviser, and notice of the meeting were sent to shareholders on 20th November 2007 and 7th December 2007 respectively. At the meeting, the independent board committee was available to answer questions from shareholders, and voting was conducted by way of a poll. The procedure for demanding a poll by shareholders was set out in the circular, and the poll voting procedure was explained fully to shareholders during the meeting. As the acquisition constituted a connected transaction under the Listing Rules, CKI and its associates had abstained from voting. Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited, the Company's share registrar, was appointed as scrutineer to monitor and count the poll votes cast at the meeting. The percentage of votes cast in favour of the resolution was 99.9947%. The poll results were posted on the Stock Exchange's and the Company's websites on the same day of the meeting and published in the newspapers on the next day.

#### Company's Website

The Company maintains a website at www.heh.com. For the dissemination of published information, the Company uploads such information including press releases, results announcements and other announcements onto its website.

#### Memorandum and Articles of Association

No changes were made to the memorandum and articles of association of the Company during the year ended 31st December 2007.

#### **Key Dates**

Announcement of 2007 interim results	9th August 2007
Payment of 2007 interim dividend (58 cents per share)	21st September 2007
Announcement of audited results for the year ended 31st December 2007	6th March 2008
Last day to register for 2007 final dividend	7th May 2008
Closure of register of members	8th May 2008 to 15th May 2008
2008 annual general meeting	15th May 2008
Payment of 2007 final dividend	16th May 2008

#### **Connected Transaction**

During the year, the Company entered into a connected transaction. On 30th October 2007, the Company and Cheung Kong Infrastructure Holdings Limited ("CKI"), a substantial shareholder holding approximately 38.87% of the issued share capital of the Company, entered into an agreement ("Agreement") pursuant to which CKI agreed to procure the sale and the Company agreed to procure the purchase by its subsidiary of 50% of the entire issued share capital of Stanley Power Inc. ("Stanley"). Stanley, a wholly owned subsidiary of CKI, had made an offer ("Offer") to purchase all of the outstanding units ("Units") of TransAlta Power, L.P. ("TransAlta Power") on the basis of CAD\$8.38 per Unit. TransAlta Power has a 49.99% of partnership interest in TransAlta Cogeneration, L.P. which owns interests in five gas-fired cogeneration facilities in Alberta, Ontario and Saskatchewan, Canada and in a coal-fired, mine mouth generation facility in Alberta.



A comprehensive website helps HK Electric communicate with shareholders, customers and other stakeholders.

Pursuant to the Agreement, the consideration payable by the Company to CKI was an amount equivalent to (a) CAD\$1,000,000 being 50% of the initial capital in Stanley plus (b) 50% of the aggregate amount of the amount paid by Stanley for the purchase of the Units, the amount paid for the interest of the general partner of TransAlta Power in TransAlta Power and the costs of the Offer and its related transactions (but excluding any amount or costs paid with the initial share capital in Stanley), less (c) 50% of the amount outstanding under the bridge facility ("Bridge Facility") to be obtained by Stanley for paying the costs of the acquisition of the Units. The Company also agreed to assume the guarantee in respect of the Bridge Facility to the extent of 50% of its amount on a several basis.

The Agreement and its related transactions were approved by independent shareholders (being shareholders other than CKI and its associates) of the Company at an extraordinary general meeting held on 27th December 2007 and completion of the Agreement took place on 28th December 2007.

The Agreement constituted a connected transaction of the Company under the Listing Rules. Shareholders have been informed of the Agreement in an announcement posted on the respective websites of the Stock Exchange and the Company on 30th October 2007, and a circular to shareholders dated 20th November 2007, and the particulars thereof are herein disclosed pursuant to Rule 14A.45 of the Listing Rules.