

專業動力青年團  
PROFESSIONAL POWER YOUTH COMMITTEE

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2013年1月21日

香港中區立法會道1號  
立法會綜合大樓  
立法會秘書處  
環境事務委員會  
何秀蘭主席

尊敬的何主席：

提交公眾意見：  
"2013年施政報告環境局的政策措施：環境保護"

就 "2013年施政報告環境局的政策措施：環境保護"，專業動力青年團希望就以下四項範疇向貴委員會提交意見(只備英文本)：

- 擴建堆填區及興建現代焚化設施
- 都市固體廢物收費
- 推動綠色建築
- 檢討發電燃料組合

環境問題將長遠影響香港在國際間的競爭力，故此，我們希望 貴委員會能夠詳細考慮我們對施政報告中就環境保護政策的意見，並希望能我們的意見向有關當局轉達。

謹祝  
工作順利

專業動力青年團  
召集人  
盧文謙, LEED AP (ID+C)

專業動力青年團  
副召集人  
李思朗

附件：專業動力青年團就"2013年施政報告環境局的政策措施：環境保護" 提出之意見(只備英文本)

January 21, 2013

Hon. Cyd HO Sau-lan  
Chairwoman  
Panel on Environmental Affairs  
Legislative Council  
1 Legislative Council,  
Central, Hong Kong

*Dear Ms. Ho,*

Re: "2013 Policy Address Policy initiatives of  
Environment Bureau: Environmental protection"

Professional Power Youth Committee (PPYC) is a not-for-profit community advocacy group and our objectives are:

- To promote a sustainable and quality living environment for all Hong Kong residents;
- To advocate for the higher waste diversion rate and encourage recycling in the community;
- To raise youth awareness in Hong Kong's social, economic and environmental policies;
- To identify ways to stimulate the economy without compromising the present resources, and
- To undertake research and studies in the urban development of Hong Kong

PPYC appreciates the government's hard work in coming up with this year's policy address on environmental policy initiative. But much to our dismay, we found that some of the environmental policy initiatives this year are a step backward in combating some of the pressing environmental issues in Hong Kong.

We have identified four matters below. We hope that you and your fellow members of the Legislative Council (Legco) Panel on Environmental Affairs could help us voice these matters out to the Environmental Bureau during the upcoming meetings.

**Landfill Extension and Construction of Incinerator**

1. We object to any re-introduction of the past administration's landfill extension or construction of incinerator schemes without making any amendments. Bear in mind, in the last administration, both landfill extension and the construction of incinerator received negative feedback from the community and were also negative by members of the then Legislative Councilors by a landslide. Hence, it makes perfectly no sense for the current administration to re-introduce the same scheme to the public or even have the same scheme put up for consultation once again.
2. We understand that there is an urgency to solve garbage problems in Hong Kong, but there are better approaches to building landfill and constructing incinerator than simply building them next to the community (i.e. Tseung Kwan O, Tuen Mun) at a close proximity.

3. We want to provide two alternatives for the Environmental Bureau to consider. They are: a) have the two facilities built on a reclaimed parcel of land away from the city, or a more aggressive approach, b) have the two facilities built through annexation of land in some part of the coastal mainland China, where land is abundant.
4. We believe our alternatives would be a win-win situation for both government and citizens in three ways. First, all nuisances as a result of landfill or potential incinerator would immediately be vanished. Second, Hong Kong would not have to worry about expanding landfill or building another incinerator for quite some time. Third, any land used for potential landfill can be freed up for uses such as Government, Institution and Community (GIC); a complement to the decrease of GIC land supply as a result of GIC lands being converted for more residential flats.
5. The idea of shipping out garbage from cities and burying or burning them at a remote area has already been implemented by other cities like Los Angeles. It is also supported by scholars like Stephen A. Cohen, Executive Director of Columbia University Earth Institute. Therefore, Hong Kong should not be afraid of adopting such policy in dealing with its garbage problem.

#### **Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Charging**

6. We understand MSW charging is a policy tool used to cut down waste throughout the world. However, the consultation paper that the Environmental Bureau submitted to Legco last December on MSW charging has so far been very unspecific on three grounds: a) how MSW charging should be implemented, b) how the revenue from the MSW charging would be utilized and c) who will receive subsidy from this scheme.
7. We hope that the government could address the above questions or at least provide some schemes for the public to choose from prior to stage 2 public consultations, so that a more constructive debate could be built during the upcoming public consultation.

#### **Promotion of Green Building**

8. We agree with the government that green building is instrumental to low-carbon living and reduction in energy consumption. However, we believe that the government has so far been incorrect in tackling the promotion of green building.
9. Aside from promoting green on just new buildings, we believe retrofitting existing buildings with green is as important as promoting green in new buildings, when especially existing buildings account for a bigger pie in the overall Hong Kong building's portfolio.
10. Just to throw out some statistics, only 5 existing buildings<sup>1</sup> in Hong Kong have so far been certified under Beam Plus Existing Building tool. Whilst, in New York, 29 existing buildings<sup>2</sup> have earned LEED Existing Building: Operation and Maintenance (EBOM) – a similar green building certification system in New York. If we compare the two numbers together, Hong Kong is definitely lacking behind in retrofitting existing building into green building.

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<sup>1</sup> From Hong Kong Green Building Council Beam Plus database

<sup>2</sup> From US Green Building Council Building Certification database

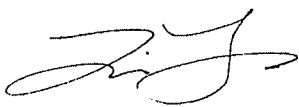
11. We note that the government has already introduced Building Ordinance APP151 to encourage developers of the new buildings to adopt more green elements at the incentive of allowing developers to claim additional Gross Floor Area and expedite application approval process.
12. We hope that the government should more or less come up with a similar strategy as Building Ordinance APP151 for existing building. Incentives such as a very simple property rate reduction or reduction in water rate would be some of the great way to encourage more existing building owners to retrofit the building with green elements.

### Fuel Mix Review

13. We welcome the announcement of a fuel mix review to combat carbon emission. But at the same time, we are also very concern about the indicator used to conduct the fuel mix.
14. In modern day's technology, no energy source can be environmental friendly, cheap and safe all at the same time. As a rule of thumb, if we want clean energy, we will have to raise energy price. If we want safe energy, we will have to raise energy price even more. Unless there is a clear subsidy, clean and safe energy is going to be very costly.
15. In the past, subsidy nevertheless has been criticized by different green groups as a tool to drive up energy consumption and thereby creating more carbon emission.
16. With different arguments over the subject of fuel mix, we hope that the fuel mix review would adopt a comprehensive indicator, such that it would create a balance between the reduction of carbon emission, energy safety and energy price.

Thank you for considering our comments. Should you have further questions, please contact Mr. Winston LEE at (852) or (852) 2623 7371.

Sincerely,



Tim Lo, LEED AP (ID+C)  
Convener  
Professional Power Youth Committee



Winston Lee  
Deputy Convener  
Professional Power Youth Committee

c.c. Environmental Bureau