



Submission to Legco

Meeting of 22nd April 2008

Subject : Bills Committee on Air Pollution Control (Amendment) Bill 2008

Below is Clear the Air's position on the subject of air pollution control.

Summary:

Since it is now well documented (Civic-Exchange, March 2007) that 53 % of the air pollution we endure in Hong Kong is locally created, Clear The Air is asking Legco to approve bold measures to cap the emissions of pollutants, as well as implement measures to quickly enable emissions trading programs. **However cutting emissions at the source remains the most fundamental action to undertake.**

Power production from the 2 **power companies** in Hong Kong was causing in 2006, the **daily emissions** of : **180 tons of Sulphur Dioxide and 114 tons of Nitrous Oxides**. Next to these pollutants we should not omit the enormous amount of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) emitted by our power companies. Both of them emitted in 2006 a combined amount of **4 tons of CO₂ per capita**, however **all cumulated sources of Carbon Dioxide** in Hong Kong **amounted to 6.5 tons of CO₂ per capita on a surface of 154m² per person**, indeed **the largest concentration of CO₂ emission in the world for a developed economy.**

Given the important role of CO₂ in the global warming process we are urging Legco to include CO₂ in the amendment bill since society has been left in the dark about **the exact level of the emission caps imposed by the new Scheme of Control, society in general has no way to know how stringent these caps are.**

Besides Clear The Air is urging Legco to support :

Demand side Management (DSM) and energy conservation for the electricity market :

DSM in 2008 is a must for any highly developed economies however since 2005, there is no clear sign that the 2 power companies are implementing it effectively **it includes :**

Automated Demand Response, Price Response, Smart thermostat, Advanced Meter Reading, Advanced Meters, Load Response, Automated Meter Reading, Energy Management Control Systems, Building Automation Systems, Controls Engineering and Locational Marginal Pricing.

Estimates by our energy specialists have revealed that the adoption of demand side management as it exists in other countries like Japan, should result in a reduction of electricity consumption in HK not of 6% but of 18 to 22% - there is scope here for very lucrative business in thorough energy saving appliances all over Hong Kong, while our power companies would then have to adapt to this new trend, not in selling more electricity but in selling less and producing less, in a cleaner way with a completely reformed Scheme of control.

Clear The Air is also urging Legco to monitor the progress of both power companies to complete as soon as possible their planned installation of **Flue Gas Desulphurization (FGD)** equipment to reduce their emissions of Sulphur Dioxide.



It is high time this equipment should have been installed. **Such FGD equipment is crucial in cutting the emissions of Sulphur Dioxide by 90%.**

Clear The Air also insists that reducing the emissions of above pollutants **doesn't only concern power companies**, but also the Road transport sector, still powered by old diesel trucks, as well as the Marine sector. Which should also shoulder their responsibility in reducing their emissions.

To improve air quality, in addition to the measures above concerning power plants, Clear The Air also supports : the phasing out of old diesel trucks, the set up of a Clean Port Policy and the adoption of new Air Quality Objectives in line with the WHO standards.

Phil Heung
Vice-Chairman
Clear The Air

Website: www.cleartheair.org.hk