

**Comments of the Hong Kong Association of Energy Engineers (HKAEE)
to Legco Panel for Environmental Affairs on HKSAR Government's
Hong Kong's Climate Change Strategy and Action Agenda Consultation Document**

HKAEE agrees that there is a genuine and urgent need to formulate a climate change strategy and action agenda for Hong Kong.

Although we support the need to adopt carbon reduction targets for Hong Kong, we feel that these should be over a period of more than a decade. We also feel that Hong Kong, being a matured economy, should really target reductions in GHG emissions in absolute terms, i.e. in percentage of carbon equivalent reduction by 2020 and 2030 based on the 2005 or (better still) the 1990 total carbon emissions, and not by carbon intensity as proposed as it would have been the usual case adopted by a developing economy. Even using the Government's projected figure of 19% to 33% reduction in GHG emissions in 2020 based on 2005 figures as the target would be more preferable than to use the carbon intensity values.

We agree that the community should conserve energy and use greener transport to reduce local GHG emissions. The examples of possible ways include paper recycling, encouraging wider use of electric cars with incentives to be considered by the government, conducting energy and carbon audits for business enterprises, encouraging use of shuttle bus and public transportation rather than private car driving, etc.

We agree that for the target up to 2020, which is relatively short, it is more practical to adopt the strategy of reducing the use of coal and increasing the use of natural gas and non-fossil fuels to meet the electricity demand for Hong Kong.

We also propose to increase the portion of electricity generation by renewable energy sources in order to reduce the reliance on use of nuclear energy in the long term future. It is important to launch more information about the safety of use of nuclear energy and promotion of use of renewable energy to the general public.

We support in principle the Govt.'s proposed direction and action agenda. However, we feel that more ambitious targets could be achieved. Building energy efficiency technologies and standards are already in place today to reduce these by 30% to 50% over those standards in 2005 particularly for new buildings and major retrofits and refurbishments. Equally there is a

lot of room to reduce the new buildings' Overall Thermal Transfer Values by more than 30% even by today's normal practice.

We agree that there is a genuine and urgent need to formulate a climate change strategy and action agenda for Hong Kong. Commensurate importance and effort should be put on both supply side and demand side of electricity. Fallback option must be devised should the planned increase in nuclear energy and/or natural gas supply for electricity generation be inadequate to meet the target by 2020 or longer term.

We strongly agree that we should strengthen regional co-operation in the PRDR and aspire to be one of the greenest cities in China.

We suggest that more effort should be put in education of our younger generations and the general public for enhanced awareness about climate change, and for adjusting their behaviour and life-style.

We consider that climate change would probably impact the vulnerable areas in this consultation paper in the way indicated and we generally agree with the framework adoption options proposed. Mechanism should be introduced to monitor the progress and effectiveness of the implementation of future adaptation actions.

Prepared by
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