

**環 保 工 程 商 會****ENVIRONMENTAL CONTRACTORS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION**29<sup>th</sup> May 2013

Clerk to Panel on Environmental Affairs  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
2/F Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

Attn: Miss Mandy PoonBy Fax: 3529 2837 & By Post

Dear Miss Poon,

**Views on Environmental Infrastructure Projects**  
**(a) 5163DR: Northeast New Territories Landfill Extension**  
**(b) 5164DR: Southeast New Territories Landfill Extension**  
**(c) 5165DR: West New Territories Landfill Extension**

ECMA always support the HKSAR in the policy on Waste Reduction, Polluter Pay Principle and Innovative Waste Management Facilities.

**WASTE REDUCTION**

The recycling rate in Hong Kong at 48% is below the other metro cities at about 60%, ECMA urges the HKSAR must push up the recycling rate by the provision of the effective mechanisms to include:

- Increase the provision of recycling bins (for paper, plastic and metals) covering from existing 80% residual building to all residual buildings
- Implement an effective recycling scheme on glass bottles
- Assist those elderly residents who have access difficulty to the recycling bins
- Speed up the construction of Organic Waste Treatment facility to handle 500 tonnes of food waste daily to fertilizer / compost for agricultural use
- Encourage the alternative treatment technology on organic waste, such as producing materials for fish feeding (assure the food chain safety)



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- Education to the community on the concept of waste reduction, implement incentive scheme on the reception of recyclable materials by districts
- Effective support to the local recycling industries on the availability of land, logistic support and environmental enforcement

### POLLUTER PAY PRINCIPLE

There are successful cases in nearby cities with substantial reduction in waste generation by the implementing the waste charging scheme. The 1.27 kg per head waste generation rate in Hong Kong is not an acceptable figure compared to other metro cities.

- ECMA support the Waste Charging Scheme as a general principle on "Polluter Pay"
- To facilitate the charging administration, a simple system such as Charging on Weight Base is recommended. Detail mechanism should be developed with full consultation to the public and stack holders.
- The implementation of waste charging should cover the House hold and Commercial & Industrial (C&I) Waste at one stage, separation into stages will only encourage "Waste shifting".
- The charging rate must be reasonable, to be sufficient to act as an incentive, but not too much to become a punishment. The collected revenue MUST be used on waste management policy or to subsidize the operation of the waste facilities.
- A "relief system" should be developed to assist the "weak society", but to avoid abuse

### INNOVATIVE WASTE FACILITY

- ECMA support the "Waste to Energy" as the main technology to treat the remaining non-recyclable waste.
- Oversea advanced / innovative technology must be adapted by the Government on the design, construction and operation of these "Waste to Energy" facilities.
- Assessment on the contractor of these "Waste to Energy" facilities must be based on their solid experience, technology maturity, financial background and commitment to the HK society.
- ECMA also supports the Landfill Extension to treat the residual from the "Waste to Energy" facilities as well as interim solution before these facilities are available.



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- Assessment on the contractor of these "Landfill Extension" facilities should follow the same stringent criteria as the "Waste to Energy" facilities
- Effective environmental nuisance measures should be implemented to reduce the adverse impact to the "sensitive receiver" close to these waste facilities
- Education to the community on the environmental benefit, safety and international standard of these waste facilities, to avoid the conflict of "not in my back yard"

For and on behalf of

Environmental Contractors Management Association

Catherine Yan - President