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From: liina

Date: 05/12/2014 10:49AM

Cc: LIM Islands <info@livingislands.org.hk>, cb1@legco.gov.hk, MALTE -D- Noack <Malte@chill.de>

Subject: Very concerned with EPD's approach to Waste Management

dear panel member

i am very concerned with building a super incinerator in hongkong. the only way to change people's behaviour is taxation of waste. as soon as there is a direct effect of behaviour mirrored in money, people change immediately. (nevertheless we are already paying for our waste by destroying our environment).

in germany each household pays for the size of their garbage bin. everything that is cleaned, sorted and brought to a special collection point for recyclables is free of charge. this is an easy and effective way of keeping the raw materials in the circle of production and consumption.

it is crucial to change our mindset from 'waste' to 'value'. the things that we throw away are all worth so much more than we 'pay' for. just think of the environmental impact of aluminum for example. retrieving it from the earth causes huge pollution. using it as containers for food is still toxic (which most people do not know). but throwing it away and incinerating it is just pure madness. as it is one of the materials that's easiest for recycling. a roll of recycled aluminum foil costs around hk\$50 in germany. that is the true price, including the environmental backpack of the product. where are those products in hongkong? where is the education?

incineration is the mindset of ignorance. something along the lines 'it just goes away. i don't have to do anything'. THERE IS NO AWAY! it will go into the skies, into the earth, into the waters. it will end up in our food chain sooner or later. why do we still think in those short term 'solutions'? incineration is not a solution. incineration is creating more problems for generations to come. WE are the ones that have to reduce our waste. NOW.

talking about the hundertwasser incinerator in austria is a very sensitive issue for me. the incinerator looks nice from the outside but the burned residues and filters that will be coming out of it are still highly toxic. it is nothing more than a pretty layer of icing on a dirty industry. i'm very reluctant to call that kind of creation 'art'. do you really want to turn something that so obviously is a sign of ignorance of hongkong's population into a landmark for hongkong? hongkong - asia's world city, one of the biggest burners of waste. do you want to be proud of that?

the only thing i agree with is that, if at all, we don't want ONE giant super incinerator, but many small ones. like this each community is responsible for their own waste that will be burned there. the more they burn, the more dirty their skies and environment will be. the

more they separate, recycle, repair and keep in the system of our economy, the better the environment. but as i said before, incineration is not the solution.

we need the government to implement

- education and awareness for 'waste' and the value of it
- implementation of charges for waste
- efficient sorting and recycling system
- producer responsibility

i am an artist who works with waste. i have done many installations showing people the value of waste in the form of beauty. the reactions i get is that of appreciation and wonder. and that of true commitment. i see that people want to help and people are willing to change!

instead of hongkong being a world city of mindless consumption, let us make hongkong a green city!

regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liina' with a stylized flourish at the end.

liina klauss  
artist