

March 17, 2014

Steven Townsend, AICP
Director
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Dear Members of LEGCO:

I am a Hong Kong permanent resident of 14 years and have chosen this great city as a place for my career and home. In recent years I discovered the beauty of South Lantau and realized its one of the most unique scenic coastlines of Hong Kong, so I decided to live there. Thus my grave concerns over the proposal to construct a waste incinerator adjacent the island of Shek Kwu Chau.

I, and many villagers living on South Lantau, object to the proposal by government on the following points:

1. The time required to bring the facility on line is projected at year 2019, after many years threshold of urgent need.
2. The transport requirements of the Shek Kwu Chau location will create the following impacts:
 - a) Potentially dangerous and certainly polluting materials shall be transported across waters that are prime as extensions of the maritime ecology protection zone.
 - b) The "out of direction" transport required shipping of waste for processing at the remote Shek Kwu Chau location will require additional transport operations, and hence extra costs as the incinerated waste ultimately must be then deposited at one of the existing landfills.
3. The visual impact of government's proposal to build at Shek Kwu Chau is greatly underestimated. The South Lantau coastline is recreational mecca for all of Hong Kong, and recently, our neighbors in the Pearl River Delta as well. The quality of the place, which is defined by the high peaks, the pristine marine environment and the delicate riparian watershed's and coastline where these two environments meet are worthy of National Park Status.

In fact the many islands within the Pearl River Delta, of which Lantau is the largest, could be considered world heritage status as part of a heritage ecological park that celebrates the unique delta environment that is rapidly becoming the most desirable place to live in China.

The South Lantau Coast and the archipelago of related islands create a sense of place that must be regarded as Hong Kong's last available public open space and recreational resource. Its value as a regional serving amenity and an important part of the symbolic

contrast between the intense urbanity and heritage respect for nature that is key to the World City status for Hong Kong must never be underestimated.

In summary, the approach put forward by the Integrated Waste Management Action Group in their rezoning application that begins to set up a holistic management policy for Hong Kong is what this council should redirect our efforts toward. The solutions offered in their proposal begin to think of Hong Kong as a synergistic community, where local scale developments begin with a more global perspective. This approach will solve not only an immediate problem more effectively but also create a plan for a better way of addressing the dynamic issue of waste handling for the next generation.

With highest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'STOWN', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Steven Townsend
Cheung Sha Ha Tsuen
Lantau, NT, Hong Kong