

Ark Eden opposed to super Incinerator Proposal

In 2010 HK took up the prominent position of world leader in per capita production of rubbish according to an OECD report.

In 2010 each HK resident produced an average of 921 kilos of rubbish - and a grand collective total of 6.45 million tones over a year.

Things have not got much better since then.

Ark Eden opposes the proposal for a super-incinerator to be built in HK believing here are much better alternatives to the IWMF and that the solutions that Hong Kong needs to take on are multi-faceted.

1. Waste Management

Reducing - Products that cannot be re-used or recycled eg styrofoam need to be phased out as is the practice in other forward-thinking cities around the world. Companies that over-package need to be penalised and made to clean up waste of their products. The public need to be educated about eco-consumerism and not be encouraged to over-consume as they are now.

Re-using - In countries such as Finland there is a high level of re-using eg glass bottles washed and re-filled.

Recycling - is woefully lacking in HK. Facilities need to be created for the proper recycling of glass - not just turning it into more construction material. The public increasing wants to recycle but facilities are limited and there is evidence that some of the recycling is lip-service and is really dumped in land-fill. There is an empty eco-park facility in NT that recycling contractors won't use because of transport costs. Government need to re-think how to manage this and spend more money on public recycling services.

Food and organic waste - this is currently 44% of our waste- the statistic on the rise. Organic farming/roof-top gardening is one of the biggest growing practices in HK. If Government make the compost - I promise - our schools will take it..

In conclusion HK needs to work towards a closed loop system in terms of packaging and production.

2. Opposition to incinerator

Incinerators are already old technology. Newer technologies need to be explored. Eg. Gasification reduces the remainder that has to go to landfill, it can also be used to turn

both waste from existing landfills and new waste into fuel for the aviation and marine industries, both two key industries of Hong Kong. Hong Kong's largest airline Cathay Pacific has already expressed interest in biofuel produced from waste

3. Protection of ecology and natural beauty

Waste management facilities should be most sensibly constructed in an area that is already used for industrial purposes, ideally close to existing refuse transfer facilities which are well connected by road and sea. Ark Eden remains opposed to the particular site of Shek Ku Chau as it is one of the last remaining habitats for the Chinese White Dolphin and Finless Porpoise and the island itself is the habitat for two species of snake endemic to Shek Ku Chau

.It also It makes no sense to build waste facilities in areas of natural beauty that the HK public use for leisure

Thank you for your attention.