



## The 'Real' Landfill capacity numbers

dynamco Dec 29th 2015 11:16am Online comment

HK's 3 landfills capacity new(million m3) from published figures

SENT 43

NENT 35

WENT 61

### **Total 139m m3 capacity**

MSW received @approx 13,800 tpd @1.1 tonnes per m3/with landfill efficiency 90% =  $13800/1.1/0.9/365 = 5.1\text{m m3 filled /year since 1995}$

$20 \times 5.1 = 102\text{m m3 used up leaves } 37\text{m m3 current space}$

Add already approved landfill extensions:

SENT 15

NENT 25

WENT 71

Total 111m m3

gives us  $37+111 = 148\text{ million m3 remaining capacity}$

W/O incineration W/O Zero waste policies = remaining landfill life of  $148/5.1\text{million per year} = 29\text{ years}$ , **which seriously conflicts with Govt doom –gloom 'figures' & its flawed reasoning for the 'need' for an incinerator**

1 incinerator processing 3000 T/day will reduce 1.1 million Te/year to say 0.4 million( 30% ash) our generation rate falls to  $5.1 - 1.1 + 0.4 = 4.4\text{ million/ year}$  giving a landfill life of  $143/4.4 = 33\text{ years}$

If we have 2 incinerator processing a total of 6000 T/day this will reduce 2.2 million Te/year to 0.8 million (30% ash) our generation rate falls to  $5.1 - 2.2 + 0.8 = 3.7\text{ million/ year}$  giving a life of  $143/3.7 = 39\text{ years}$

### **Conclusion**

Incinerators don't really help a lot w/o a use for all the ash but, we do gain the electricity if CLP can be forced to buy it  
Meanwhile HKG's ultra wet waste needs more energy to burn so less to sell.

Incinerators only delay the landfill problem by 5 or 10 years at most & is flawed policy

### **We need Zero Waste policies with source separation of waste legislation**

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what about the **source separation of waste legislation** ?

what about the **Zero Waste policies** ?

if the food waste was separated dry recyclable paper, cardboard, glass etc would remain

the food waste can be collected, taken to transfer stations & garburated and fed into the sewer system

Our daily waste water level is 1.4m cubic meters

Stonecutters can handle 2.7m cubic meters per day

3600 cubic meters of food waste would take only 5 minutes to pass thru the plant & most of it would have been eaten up by bacteria before even arriving there

[www.ciwem.org/knowledge-networks/panels/wastewater-management/food-waste-disposers.aspx](http://www.ciwem.org/knowledge-networks/panels/wastewater-management/food-waste-disposers.aspx)

But if we separate the food waste, then Govt collects & recycles the dry recyclables, there would not be enough left to burn under the Govt flawed current incinerator policy

Moreso, 30% of what is burned by weight remains as ash that needs landfilling

However as in a recent televised Legco meeting serious doubts were raised on the real remaining landfill capacity - the Govt lied about this as it also lied about 'real' local recycling levels when operation Green Fence exposed the imported transit waste to China was added to local 'recycling' stats

Moreover IPCC reports show for every tonne of MSW burned, 0.8-1.2 tonnes of CO2 are released to air - what was baldylocks pontificating about reducing CO2 by 2020?

[www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/pub\\_consult/landfill\\_backgr\\_r01.html](http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/pub_consult/landfill_backgr_r01.html)

**"the 3 landfills will be full between 2012-2018"**

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## Pollution, food waste and heavy traffic: what Hong Kong's chief executive should focus on in 2016

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Comment › Insight & Opinion

Edwin Lau

Edwin Lau says Hongkongers shouldn't hesitate to let Leung Chun-ying know what he can do to make Hong Kong a more liveable place

Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying's invitation to the public to contribute their views to his preparation for the upcoming policy address is a wonderful opportunity to suggest ways to make Hong Kong more liveable.

**[READ MORE: How China, the 'world's largest polluter', is taking on climate change \[1\]](#)**

Climate change is a pressing global challenge. At the [UN climate summit in Paris](#) [2], 20 countries including China and the US launched the [Mission Innovation](#) [3] initiative with a collective commitment of US\$20 billion to accelerate global clean energy innovation. So how much will the Leung administration commit to the climate challenge?

Here are some suggestions of what we can do:

- Vegetation targets. Hong Kong is fortunate to have a natural carbon sink in our country parks, as long as we don't allow housing development to encroach on them. We should set targets for vegetation coverage in the country parks and throughout the city.
- Des Voeux Road Central. To improve air quality, congested Des Voeux Road Central should be turned into a [vehicle-free zone](#) [4], with water features to mitigate the concrete-jungle feel. This would persuade people to walk or take public transport, which is good for public health. Leung should learn from the South Korean government, which removed an elevated highway in Seoul's city centre to revitalise the Cheonggyecheon stream, now an urban park.

**[READ MORE: Hong Kong's waste problem: a stinking trail of missed targets, data errors and misdirected efforts \[5\]](#)**

- Food waste. More than 3,600 tonnes of food waste is created daily in Hong Kong. Although our government plans to build three organic waste treatment facilities between 2016 and 2021, the total daily capacity they can handle is only 800 tonnes, or 22 per cent of our food waste.

Hong Kong still does not have a waste charging law. If food waste recycling was made mandatory, all private food waste recyclers would operate round the clock to help achieve the government target of reducing food waste disposal at landfills by 40 per cent by 2022.

- Energy efficiency. Publicising the energy utilisation index of all buildings would be a cost-effective way to encourage these buildings, through peer pressure, to improve their energy efficiency. Currently, the law requires only commercial buildings to declare their index, whereas government buildings are exempted.
- Energy savings. There should be a government-led programme for generating “negawatts” – energy saved instead of consumed, which is the cleanest energy of all. If Hong Kong’s 7 million residents each generate just one “negawatt” a day, Hong Kong would save 1.7 million tonnes of carbon dioxide a year.

The question is, will Leung take the lead and implement these suggestions?

#### **Edwin Lau Che-feng is a veteran environmentalist**



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- [1] <http://www.scmp.com/magazines/post-magazine/article/1891794/how-china-worlds-largest-polluter-taking-climate-change>
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