

EcoSmart Series IV: Sustainability Forum on

The New Air Quality Objectives

Guest Speaker: The Hon Edward Yau, Secretary for the Environment

25 September 2009, 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Are you ready to pay for the prices of cleaner air?

The HKSAR Government has launched a public consultation on the new Air Quality Objectives (AQOs), benchmarking against World Health Organisation Guidelines. To achieve the new AQOs, a package of emission control measures is proposed in three phases, covering **emission capping and control on power generation, transport management, infrastructure development and planning**, as well as **energy efficiency measures**. Particularly, the 19 initiatives of phase I management measures will bring about **anticipated benefits of \$1,228 million** per year mainly due to improvement of public health and savings in energy costs. The average life expectancy of the pollution would also be increased by about one month or around 7,400 life years saved per year.

We all wish to breathe clean air, which is an essential part of a quality living environment and an important vitality in maintaining the competitiveness of Hong Kong as an international business centre. However, the social costs of these management measures could be borne by the community and business sector. How would you like to trade off cleaner air? Members please join the discussion to share your views.

What are the trade-offs?

- Higher ratio of natural gas in local electricity generation could increase electricity tariff by 20%.
- Early retirement of aged buses could drive the fare increase to about 15%.
- Earlier replacement of Euro III commercial diesel vehicles with latest Euro V models would impose pressure on vehicle owners, and the costs of hybrid/electric vehicles are much higher than conventional vehicles.
- Higher cost of using ultra low sulphur diesel by ferry operators, as well as retrofitting selective catalytic reduction (SCR) in local vessels.
- Higher cost of using electric ground support equipment (GSE) in airport.
- Potential higher operating cost to businesses due to the implementation of low emission/car-free zones and pedestrainization scheme.
- Possible layoffs caused by bus route rationalization.

The Hong Kong General Chamber has initiated an EcoSmart series of events to promote a smart culture that enables individuals, building managers, transport operators and general businesses to be more environmental friendly. Together, we will be able to help develop Hong Kong into a sustainable city.

Booking Form ===== Fax: 2821 9528

To : Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, 22/F, United Centre, 95 Queensway, Hong Kong
Attn : Ms Looby Ho (tel: 28231228)
Event : EcoSmart series IV: The New Air Quality Objectives, 25 September 2009, 3:30pm-5:00pm
Venue : Theatre, Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, 22/F United Centre, 95 Queensway, Hong Kong
Fee : Free

Co. Name:			
Contact person:	Tel:	Fax:	Email:
Attendee:	Family Name	First Name	Job Title

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