



BY EMAIL ONLY

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31 January, 2019

Dear Sirs,

**A Brief Review of AQHI Data of Hong Kong -
Health Risk Due To Air Pollution and Development Planning**

Green Power, a local charitable green group, has been monitoring the Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) and the previous Air Pollution Index (API) data for over a decade. Enclosed with this letter is a brief report produced by Green Power regarding our AQHI and API analyses, i.e. *A Brief Review of AQHI Data of Hong Kong for 2018*.

According to yearly average AQHI data of 2014-2018 (refer to enclosed report), Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Tung Chung ranked the highest in terms of “High” health risk (HHR) hours (hourly AQHI ≥ 7) and HHR days (daily maximum AQHI ≥ 7). This indicates that in 2014-2018 people staying in Tuen Mun, Tung Chung and Yuen Long ran higher health risk due to air pollution.

The longest HHR hours (AQHI ≥ 7) and the highest number of HHR days (daily maximum AQHI ≥ 7) recorded in Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Tung Chung may be attributable to the presence of several major emission sources, including international airport, power plants, trunk roads, container terminals and heavy road and marine traffic, although transboundary pollution is found to be one of the major sources.

In spite that the number of HHR hours and days have decreased since 2014, additional emission sources in the near future, including: Expansion of Hong Kong International Airport into a Three-Runway System, Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and Boundary Crossing Facilities, Tuen Mun-Chek Lap Kok Link and incinerators, are anticipated to worsen the situation.

Furthermore, the Administration has downplayed the anticipated air pollution in their planning for the western territory such as Lantau Development, Tung Chung New Town Extension, Hung Shui Kiu New Development Area, Yuen Long South, Kam Tin South and Boundary Crossing Facilities Island of Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge. There will be a planned population of over 1,280,000 to 1,680,000 living in the high health risk due to air pollution in these areas.

Green Power urges the Administration to commence a study to investigate the air pollution problems of the western territory and provide effective policies, measures and proper transport strategy and town planning, before settling people in the likely most polluting areas in Hong Kong. Also, the Government should launch more health and environment caring transport strategy and measures to improve air quality in polluted areas and protect the unpolluted area from road transport.

The HKSAR Government should notice that while the western territory (i.e. Tuen Mun, Yuen Long and Tung Chung) has been experiencing the worst air quality among the General Stations since 2014, the air quality of eastern territory such as Eastern District, Sha Tin and Tai Po draws grave attention as their ranking in numbers of HHR hours (hourly AQHI ≥ 7) and days (daily maximum AQHI ≥ 7) among General Air Quality Monitoring Stations is increasing in past five years.

For any queries, please contact the undersigned at Green Power (T: 3961 0200, Fax: 2314 2661, Email: lkcheng@greenpower.org.hk)

Thank you very much for your kind attention. I look forward to your favourable response.

Yours faithfully,



CHENG Luk-ki
Director

Encl.

A Brief Review of AQHI Data of Hong Kong for 2018

c.c.

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