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Replies to supplementary questions raised by Legislative Council Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2024-25

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Environment and Ecology
Session No. : 10

Controlling Officer: Director of Environmental Protection
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Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
S-EEB(E)001	S016	CHAN Yuet-ming	44	(0) -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-EEB(E)001

(Question Serial No. S016)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (-) Not specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Environmental Protection (Samuel CHUI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment and Ecology

Question:

The North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill is located within the boundary commerce and industry zone of the Northern Metropolis, just 150 metres away from the recently established Robin's Nest Country Park. With the forthcoming announcement of the land use proposal for the boundary commerce and industry zone later this year, public attention will focus more on the closure timetable for the landfill and the planning implications for the Northern Metropolis boundary economy. Supplementary follow-up questions that were not addressed in the written reply are as follows:

1. Upon the commissioning of the incinerator facility near Shek Kwu Chau in 2025, will the amount of municipal solid waste to be delivered to the NENT Landfill decrease?
2. Will the Government enlist the support of other Greater Bay Area cities in accelerating the progress of I-PARK 2?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Yuet-ming (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

1. We are working full steam on developing highly efficient modern waste-to-energy incinerators. With the Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase 1 (I-PARK1) under construction and the Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase 2 (I-PARK2) under planning, it is expected that Hong Kong's municipal solid waste (MSW) incineration capacity will reach 9 000 tonnes per day. In anticipation of the commissioning of I-PARK1 in 2025, together with the landfill operation arrangements and associated traffic arrangements, the Environmental Protection Department will have room for reducing the amount of MSW to be transported to the North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill. It is expected that the total amount of MSW to be handled by the NENT Landfill and the West New Territories Landfill can be reduced by about 3 000 tonnes per day. Upon the commissioning of I-PARK2, the NENT Landfill will completely cease receiving MSW and will be transformed to receive construction waste only. Construction waste will not decay and are odourless, thus eliminating the odour problem arising from waste reception.
2. In April 2023, we conducted a briefing on the Market Sounding Exercise, arranged a site visit to Tsang Tsui, Tuen Mun, and collected suggestions from over 20 major waste

incineration enterprises in the Mainland and the international arena on various aspects of I-PARK2 development, such as construction mode, efficiency improvement, incineration technology and construction of ancillary facilities. We are currently conducting surveys, design work and environmental impact assessments for I-PARK2. At the same time, we will draw on the experience of developing waste-to-energy incinerators in the Mainland to take forward the development of I-PARK2.

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