

To whom it may concern,

I am hoping to respond to your consultation process regarding HATS.

It does appear that Option A is the best due to it's lower impact on the surrounding environment. But this is only if the facts are truly represented in the consultation paper, which I sincerely hope it is.

I don't agree with two phases, which seems to me a cost cutting factor that will delay the biological treatment of sewage. I believe implementing the 2 stages together simply as I believe the sooner we have complete biological treatment of sewage the better.

I agree with the polluter pays principle. People have to acknowledge that their activities are wrecking the environment, to the wanton waste of electricity (It's hard to walk in Hong Kong, even in winter, without finding aircon), the ridiculous number of cars, plastic bags. I hope your bureau will use the polluter pays principle to all issues concerning the environment, by which I mean that oil for private vehicles should be taxed, heavily. Electricity should cost a lot more so people think twice before reaching for the Air Con. We should pay for plastic bags (such as \$5 a bag) or ban them altogether. The beverage makers should be forced to use glass bottles that can be returned. If we don't act now who knows where we will be in 50 years time.

If you travel to Australia, or New Zealand, you notice a big difference. Recycle bins are everywhere, the air smells clean, people will not willingly chuck rubbish into the sea. If you ask them whether any of taxpayers money has been wasted on environmental protection, the answer is always the same. It's been worth it down to the last penny. I fear the concerns of those who love the environment will be overridden

by economic concerns, as has been happening here. If this continues, I am sad to say I will leave the country of my birth simply because the people here just don't care. They're happy to destroy the land on which we live to make money. And I will never be returning.

Yours faithfully,

Donald Asprey.

