



yeung pui

To: hats@etwb.gov.hk

cc:

Subject: Harbour Area Treatment Scheme -Public Consultation - an Alternative to the Scheme

16/11/2004 20:58

Dear Sir,

Re: E(04/4407) Harbour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 2 Public Consultation

I refer to the above e-mail reply on the 12th Nov.2004. It mentioned that salt water used for flushing water is hard to be desalted for irrigation quality for creating an forestry industry.

I consider that the fishes in the sea can also dispell the salts in sea water from the bodies through their gills. So are the desalting process can be a subject of study before they entre into the flushing system. Or, further, rain water can be used to dilute the salt content and turn the sewage discahrge to that of an irrigation quality that can create a forestry industry in Hong Kong. The amount of reduction in engineering cost and adding values to the the HK GDP is worth a study by joint University research effeort for the ecominc implication When comapred to the hugh engineering cost and further operatioal cost of the treatment system, I think the SAR goverment may find that a sponspered University study is of an insignificant fraction.

Moreover flushing salt water is also diluted by waste waer from the kitchen and bath. The level of salinity reduced should not be as high as salt water initially. As salt level can be reduced in the first place through some form of mechanism as in the fish gill or anti-osmosis process, the salinity and the efficency of desaltation can be determined. the amount of recyclable irrigation quality water can be estimated for establishing the economic value of the size of the forestry indusy for Hong Kong.

A preliminary estimates should be carried out when comapred to the hughcost of the project in terms of several billions as an alternative to the sewage treatment scheme.

Please take also into account the continuous ecomonic value generated so long as we use water when compared to cost of running and maintanining cost in pumping and discharging, while irrigation can be free low and through small diameter seepage pipes.

Does the sort of study of this alternative will be too long to delay the Harbour Treatment Scheme project? Is the technology of initial salt reduction is a heavy cost, or reasonably econmically available? I hope you may also have an interest to find out for the impact on the environment and the economy for the next generation. Reember it may not necessary forestry industry, but also growing valuable Chinese medicine like ganoderma and otehrs and the ultimate export value they generated.

Yeung Pui Yin