

Report on the Public Consultation on Future Fuel Mix for Electricity Generation in Hong Kong

Explanatory Notes for Publication of Submissions

The Environment Bureau (ENB) published on 19 March 2014 the Consultation Document on Future Fuel Mix for Electricity Generation in Hong Kong, commencing a three-month public consultation. During the consultation period, members of the public could submit their views through the following channels:

- (i) By post to the Environment Bureau;
- (ii) By email (fuel_mix@enb.gov.hk); or
- (iii) By facsimile (2147 5834).

Written submissions from the public

2. For the ease of responding to the consultation and subsequent analysis, a standard response form (the “Form”) was provided on the ENB website and attached to the consultation document. Submissions not using the Form were also accepted.

3. The consultation period ended on 18 June 2014. During the consultation period, we received a total of 86 128 written submissions, of which 84 839 were from individuals and 1 289 from groups and organisations.

4. Except for submissions for which the respondents have requested anonymity, the respondents’ names are published in two separate Indexes, viz. one for individual submissions and the other for corporate submissions (i.e. groups/organisations) and arranged according to the date of receipt by the ENB.

5. For submissions responded by way of ticking the boxes against the two consultation questions in the Form (including those respondents who did not use the Form but had only provided their views on the two consultation questions) and did not provide other comments and suggestions in Part 4 of the Form, their views on the two consultation questions have been analysed and reported in the Consultation Report.

6. For respondents who provided other relevant comments and suggestions in addition to responding to the two consultation questions in Part 4 of the Form (including those who did not use the Form), their submissions are published on the ENB website, save for those who requested their views be kept confidential. For respondents whose submissions are published, an asterisk is marked against their names in the Indexes.

Emails which cannot be further processed

7. Some emails which were sent to the designated email account for this consultation exercise were spam emails or were completely irrelevant to the present consultation. We have not further processed these emails.

Advertisements and offensive lines in the submissions

8. We have removed advertisements and offensive lines in the submissions.

Handling of personal data

9. In order to protect the privacy of the respondents, we have removed the respondents' telephone numbers and email addresses when publishing their submissions. Other personal data such as identity card numbers, facsimile numbers and residential/office addresses, if provided, have also been removed.

Handling of copyright

10. Some submissions received contain newspaper cuttings, published articles, information from the Internet or extracts of books and magazines, or presentation materials of unknown sources. As these articles may involve copyright, they are not published unless the senders have shown that they have obtained written consent from the publisher or the copyright owner concerned.

Assigning Serial Numbers

11. Respondents were requested to indicate whether their submissions represented the views of an individual or a corporate (i.e. a group or an organisation). For the purposes of analysing the responses

and publishing them on the website, each submission, individual or corporate, has been assigned a serial number with 8 digits and 1 alphabet (e.g. 424A00246 or 502B00135). The first 3 digits represent the date on which the submission was received by the ENB (e.g. 424 means 24th April and 502 means 2nd May). Alphabet “A” means the submission was an individual response and alphabet “B” means a corporate response. The last five digits represent the assigned sequence number when ENB processed the submission. For example, a submission with serial number 424A00246 means that the individual submission was received by ENB on 24th April 2014 and was the 246th submission processed by ENB for that day. A submission with serial number 502B00135 means that the corporate submission was received by ENB on 2nd May 2014 and was the 135th submission processed by ENB for that day.

12. For submissions through email and facsimile, we have used the dates as recorded in the email system and the header of the facsimile respectively for assigning the serial numbers. For submissions received by post, the dates of the post stamps will be used. It should be noted that more than 14 000 submissions were submitted by post on the last day of the consultation on 18 June 2014. Although they were all stamped “18 June 2014”, they were dispatched by the Hong Kong Post to ENB by batches on 19th, 20th and 23rd (21st and 22nd being Saturday and Sunday). For administrative convenience of processing the large number of submissions, we have also used the prefix of “619”, “620” and “623” for assigning serial numbers, though all these submissions were actually received within the consultation period.

Searching for the Published Submissions

13. According to the arrangements as set out in paragraph 5 and 6 above, we are publishing about 11 500 submissions. If an asterisk is marked against a submission in the Index, it means that the submission has been published and can be located by referring to the assigned serial number. Electronic files on the webpage are named using the first and last serial numbers of the submissions contained therein to facilitate ease of access.

14. All Indexes showing the names of the respondents can be searched electronically for locating any intended respondents.

Errors and Omissions

15. Owing to the large number of submissions received, there may be errors and omissions in the compilation of the respondents' names on the Indexes and the published submissions.

16. Enquiries relating to the above arrangements or reporting of any errors or omissions may be made by email to fuel_mix@enb.gov.hk. We will make the appropriate amendments if necessary.

Environment Bureau
March 2015