



## **LegCo members visit Towngas Tai Po Plant to learn about latest hydrogen energy development**

(28 November 2022) The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited (Towngas) has been putting a lot of effort into researching and promoting smart energy. On 26 November, a group of members of the Legislative Council (LegCo) paid a visit to the Tai Po Gas Production Plant to learn more about gas production safety, energy development and decarbonisation progress in Towngas' operations. They also had the opportunity to see the hydrogen extraction facility at the Plant in action.

The lawmakers who joined the visit include Ms Elizabeth Quat, Mr Frankie Yick Chi-ming, Ir Dr Lo Wai-kwok, Dr Junius Ho Kwan-yiu, Ir Chan Siu-hung, Dr Stephen Wong Yuen-shan, and Ir Gary Zhang Xinyu. The Towngas representatives receiving the guests include Mr Simon Ngo Siu-hing, the Head of Engineer – Hong Kong Utility; Mr Daniel Fung Man-kit, the Head of Strategy & Innovation and Commercial - HK Utility, among others.

The LegCo members were briefed on the production process of town gas and various high-standard safety measures at the Tai Po Plant. A demonstration of the newly set up hydrogen extraction system at the Plant was also arranged for the visiting group. During the visit, Mr Simon Ngo pointed out that Towngas stopped using coal as its feedstock in 1967, with natural gas, naphtha and landfill gas as its replacement nowadays, and the current gas mix contains approximately 50% of hydrogen. As the use of hydrogen for power generation has become an integral part of the energy transition, the Company, with its territory-wide gas supply network, is actively exploring the feasibility of extracting hydrogen from town gas to provide Hong Kong with a convenient, fast, affordable and cleaner energy source.

Ms Elizabeth Quat, who also chairs the Panel on Environmental Affairs in the Legislative Council, was pleased to see Towngas' efforts in the upstream production and supply of hydrogen energy. "This visit to the Tai Po Plant allowed us to better understand Towngas' plans in hydrogen extraction and supply, as well as its clear direction in hydrogen energy development. I hope that the pace of downstream application and the relevant legislative process can be sped up, together contributing to the carbon neutrality goals set by the country and the HKSAR."

Thanking the LegCo members for their visit on behalf of Towngas, Mr Simon Ngo said, "The visiting LegCo members exchanged insights in areas such as gas safety, carbon reduction and hydrogen energy with us. They also provided practical advice to Towngas on the safe and reliable hydrogen supply. We will continue to optimise

relevant technologies and equipment, and encourage the sector to cooperate with the Government in formulating future regulations and standards for the hydrogen energy industry, with a view to cutting carbon emissions.”

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**Press photos:**

Photo 1:



From left: Mr Simon Ngo Siu-hing, Head of Engineer – Hong Kong Utility of Towngas; LegCo members Ir Gary Zhang Xinyu, Dr Stephen Wong Yuen-shan, Mr Frankie Yick Chi-ming, Ms Elizabeth Quat, Ir Dr Lo Wai-kwok, Ir Chan Siu-hung, Dr Junius Ho Kwan-yiu; and Mr Daniel Fung Man-kit, Head of Strategy & Innovation and Commercial - HK Utility of Towngas, pose for a photo in front of the hydrogen extraction system.

Photos 2 & 3:



Towngas representatives explain to the LegCo members how the hydrogen extraction system works.

For media enquiries, please contact:  
The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited

Mr Addie Lam  
Assistant General Manager –  
Corporate Affairs  
Tel: 2963 2578 / 6702 6449  
Fax: 2516 7368  
Email: [addie.lam@towngas.com](mailto:addie.lam@towngas.com)

Ms Kara Kwong  
Senior Corporate Communications Officer  
Tel: 2963 3497 / 6698 3357  
Fax: 2516 7368  
Email: [kara.kwong@towngas.com](mailto:kara.kwong@towngas.com)