



Secretary for Environment and Ecology visits Tai Po Plant to learn how Towngas' hydrogen extraction system contributes to carbon reduction

(22 December 2022) Mr Tse Chin-wan, the Secretary for Environment and Ecology, led a delegation to the Tai Po Gas Production Plant of The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited (Towngas) yesterday afternoon to tour the gas production facilities and the hydrogen extraction system. During the visit, the delegation learned more about the carbon reduction progress and the latest smart energy development of Towngas. Both parties also had an in-depth exchange on the development of hydrogen energy in Hong Kong.

Towngas representatives, including Mr Peter Wong Wai-yee, the Managing Director; Mr Simon Ngo Siu-hing, the Head of Engineering – Hong Kong Utility; Mr Daniel Fung Man-kit, the Head of Strategy & Innovation and Commercial – Hong Kong Utility etc., briefed Mr Tse Chin-wan, the Secretary of Environment and Ecology, Ms Diane Wong Shuk-han, the Under Secretary, and other Bureau representatives, as well as officials from the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, on the Company's carbon reduction strategy and reported on the progress of Towngas' research on the upstream production and supply of hydrogen energy.

In line with the carbon reduction policies set out by the country and the HKSAR Government, Towngas is committed to developing clean energy. Currently, hydrogen constitutes around half of its supplied gas composition. With its pipeline network reaching virtually everywhere in Hong Kong, installing hydrogen extraction systems on the client side is a low-cost, safe and efficient hydrogen energy supply solution suitable for Hong Kong.

On top of hydrogen energy technology, Towngas representatives also showed the officials the natural gas storage facility at the Plant. In 2003, Towngas signed a 25-year agreement with an Australian natural gas supplier to bring in cleaner natural gas, saving the customers close to \$20 billion in fuel costs to date.

Mr Tse Chin-wan, the Secretary for Environment and Ecology, remarked, "In order to align with the national dual carbon goals, Hong Kong is striving to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, and the development of sustainable green energy is an important step in eliminating carbon emissions. The Government is pleased to see that Towngas' hydrogen energy application and supply solutions are helping Hong Kong to transform Hong Kong into a city utilising low-carbon energy."

Mr Peter Wong Wai-yee, the Managing Director of Towngas, thanked the officials of the Environmental and Ecology Bureau and the Electrical and Mechanical

Services Department for their visit and valuable advice, “As the upstream supplier of hydrogen, Towngas is committed to the research of hydrogen production and supply technologies to support the downstream application of hydrogen energy in Hong Kong. We hope to make good use of our 3,700 kilometres of underground pipelines, and deliver hydrogen to different parts of the territory. We will also work actively with the Government to develop future regulations and standards for the hydrogen industry, in order to provide a safe and reliable hydrogen supply to Hong Kong.”

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Press photos:

Photo 1:



Towngas Managing Director Mr Peter Wong Wai-yee (4th from left), Head of Engineering – Hong Kong Utility Mr Simon Ngo Siu-hing (2nd from left) and Head of Strategy & Innovation and Commercial – Hong Kong Utility Mr Daniel Fung Man-kit (2nd from right) introduce Towngas’ hydrogen extraction system to Secretary for Environment and Ecology Mr Tse Chin-wan (3rd from right), Under Secretary Ms Diane Wong Shuk-han, and representatives from Electrical and Mechanical Services Department.

Photo 2:



Mr Peter Wong Wai-yee (centre), Managing Director of Towngas, briefs Mr Tse Chin-wan (right), Secretary for Environment and Ecology, on Towngas' progress in hydrogen energy development.

Photo 3:



Mr Tse Chin-wan (centre with blue tie), Secretary for Environment and Ecology, advises Towngas on hydrogen extraction technology.

Photo 4:



Towngas representatives demonstrate to the visiting delegation how the hydrogen extraction system separates hydrogen from town gas, and uses the extracted hydrogen to generate electricity with the hydrogen fuel cell.

Photo 5:



Mr Tse Chin-wan (2nd from right), Secretary for Environment and Ecology, visits the natural gas receiving station at the Tai Po Plant. Natural gas, one of the cleanest fossil fuels, was introduced to Hong Kong in 2006 as one of the Towngas feedstocks.

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