

Immediate Release

**Towngas Launches Low Carbon Action! Green Christmas  
HK's First-Ever Zero Emission Human-Powered Christmas Lighting**

(24 Nov 2009) The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited (Towngas) launched Low Carbon Action! Green Christmas Exhibition with a specially designed Human-Powered Low Carbon Christmas Lighting, leading a zero emission green Christmas for Hong Kong. The latest initiative compliments "Towngas Low Carbon Action! Campaign, encouraging Hong Kong people to join hands in reducing carbon emission by one million tonnes.

Every year, commercial buildings in Hong Kong have impressed the public with spectacular Christmas lightings, however, little do they realise that these glamorous lighting effect produce substantial carbon emissions. A survey conducted by Green Association in 2008 revealed that during the festive season of Christmas, commercial buildings along the Victoria Harbour used up to over 85,500 light bulbs for Christmas lighting. Assuming each light bulb contributes to 25W of energy, for duration of 6 hours every night, carbon emission during Christmas was estimated to be as high as 404 tonnes, equivalent to the carbon emission of 1,600 double-decker buses.

To make this Christmas special, Towngas has set up Hong Kong's first Low Carbon Human-Powered Christmas lighting at New World Center in TST. With participation of the general public, this unique environmental Christmas lighting will be able to generate dazzling light through solar power and human power by cycling. The public are welcome to join us to produce lighting of low carbon that shines through the spectacular skyline of the Victoria Harbour.

The lighting ceremony of this low carbon Christmas decoration held on 24 Nov 2009, was officiated by Mr Leung Chun Ying, Non-official Member of the Executive Council Convenor; Ms Charlene Choi (Ah Sa), famous artist and Towngas Low Carbon Christmas Ambassador; Mr James Kwan, Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of Towngas; Mr Edwin Lau, Director of Friends of the Earth (HK) and Mr Raymond To, Director & Acting General Manager, KLPS Group Ltd. Apart from the green Christmas lighting, Towngas also displays Christmas trees produced from 6,000 reused CDs. Other low carbon elements include a splendid Christmas ornament made out of reused tires with low carbon living tips. The public can also

join the low carbon Christmas initiative by pledging through the Low Carbon Action! Website, [www.towngas.com/lowcarbonaction](http://www.towngas.com/lowcarbonaction) on the spot.

Mr James Kwan said, “As Hong Kong’s leading supplier of low carbon clean energy, Towngas takes environmental protection as our key corporate responsibility. From design to execution, our Low Carbon Action! Christmas lighting follows towards zero carbon emission. This environmental friendly installation is also a channel for the public to actively take part for a greener future. By cycling 15 minutes, one can generate 12W of energy, enough to charge up a cell phone or this low carbon Christmas billboard lighting. Not only does the public have a chance to experience in person low carbon living, they also help contribute to the Towngas Low Carbon Action! Campaign which aims to reduce carbon emission by 1 million tonnes.”

Mr Leung Chun Ying, Convenor of Non-official Members of the Executive Council, expressed, “Climate change is the greatest challenge facing mankind today. Every individual and corporation has the responsibility to tackle it realistically and sensibly. As one of the world’s major cities, Hong Kong should take concrete steps towards creating a low carbon, low pollution and low energy-consumption society and economy. Towngas has fully demonstrated how enterprises can encourage the public to lead a low carbon life through launching low-carbon Christmas lights. Towngas sets a fine example for others to follow.”

Mr Edwin Lau, Director of Friends of the Earth (HK) said, “This zero carbon emission Christmas lighting installed by Towngas has provided the public with a chance to contribute to the environment directly and personally. Based on the calculation of 3,000 light bulbs used in traditional Christmas lighting running 5 hours a day for 42 days, up to 9,582kg of CO<sub>2</sub> is generated. This zero carbon emission Christmas billboard is certainly a plus to the environment.”

According to figures from the Environmental Protection Department, the average annual carbon emission of Hong Kong people per person amounts to 6.7 tonnes. The below chart shows the carbon emission rate between traditional Christmas lighting design and Towngas low carbon Christmas lighting design:

Items	Emission Rate	Items	Emission Rate
Traditional Christmas lighting and Christmas tree lightings (Calculation based on 5 hours/day for 42 days)	9,582kg	Solar-powered and human-powered bike generated LED light Christmas tree.	0 kg





### **Ornaments made of reused tires**

This special Christmas ornament is made of reused tires, with various low carbon living tips. Public can learn interesting low carbon living tips while enjoying the beauty of the Christmas settings.

### **Mini parade of festive low carbon tips**

This low carbon tips festive float has already made their appearance at the opening ceremony of Towngas Low Carbon Campaign. Transformed into low carbon Christmas festive bicycles, these displays serve to carry out the mission of low carbon and demonstrate the power of reused materials.

### **Action now to join our low carbon force**

The Towngas Low Carbon Christmas zone is specially designed with a Christmas internet kiosk. The public visiting our low carbon Christmas zone can get access to the Low Carbon Action! [www.towngas.com/lowcarbonaction](http://www.towngas.com/lowcarbonaction) website and register on the spot to join our mass pledge online. Join us now to realise our target of reducing carbon emission by 1 million tones.

Media enquiry:

The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited

Corporate Communications Department

Tel: 2963 3493

Fax: 2516 7368

E-mail: [ccd@towngas.com](mailto:ccd@towngas.com)