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Feature Article

Promoting Product Carbon Labeling

To encourage greener consumer habits among Taiwan's citizens, the government has been promoting its product carbon labeling system. The system also aims to push businesses to review their manufacturing processes and supply chains to see where carbon reductions can be made. Over the last four years, the system has received widespread support from all government departments, as well as private enterprises and members of the public. Their combined efforts are going a long way toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

A product carbon footprint indicates the total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that a product produces during its complete cradle to grave life cycle. Products are labeled with a clearly-identifiable icon that conveys to the consumer information on the product's carbon footprint, allowing them to be more selective when shopping. A media campaign over the last few years has been aimed at reducing GHG emissions by encouraging greener consumer habits and getting businesses to review and find where reductions can be made, thus improving their image as responsible protectors of the environment.

On 5 June 2008, the Executive Yuan approved the *Guidelines for Sustainable Energy Policy* which

includes specific targets for energy saving and carbon reduction, namely, reducing carbon emissions by one kilogram per capita per day. The former Chief Executive Officer of the National Council for Sustainable Development, Dr. Hsung-hsiung Tsai, spelled this out in the following terms: Establishing an eco-labeling system through amending the *Trademark Act*, accreditation, carbon credits, cooperation from distributors, and encouraging public participation with the specific target of reducing the carbon footprint by one kilogram per capita per day. The EPA has since observed international developments and trends, and has taken into account the situation in Taiwan, while developing Taiwan's product carbon labeling system.

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Taiwan the Eleventh Nation to Start Carbon Labeling

In September 2009, the EPA held a competition to select an icon design for product carbon labels. The winner was selected from 1,286 entries and Taiwan became the eleventh nation worldwide to roll out carbon labeling for consumer products. Some of the main achievements over the last four years of promoting carbon labeling are as follows:

1) Maintaining sound operation of the Carbon Labeling Communication Platform

Nine consultation meetings have so far been convened at which representatives from government, industry, academia, and citizen's groups shared their opinions. Two evaluation meetings have also been convened at which information on carbon labeling overseas was analyzed and possible amendments to Taiwan's carbon labeling system and regulations were discussed.

2) Giving guidance to enterprises conducting carbon

footprint audits and applying for carbon labeling

1. In July 2010, 11 products were selected for trial subsidies as a part of the implementation of the Product Carbon Labeling Demonstration Subsidy Plan, and were later audited or verified for their carbon footprint.

2. In order to maintain carbon footprint verification quality, the EPA has been regularly holding its Product Carbon Footprint Verification Personnel Training Course. The course upgrades the knowledge and skills of verification personnel and gives them a chance to share experiences and learn from each other.

3. In September 2011, the EPA selected six different categories of products – bicycles, soy milk, blankets, eco-friendly shopping bags, pineapple cakes, and floor tiles – as models for carbon footprint labeling. They were later audited or verified for their carbon footprint, and in December 2012, the EPA held a press conference to announce the results of the audits.



▶ Representatives of the Industrial Technology Research Institute and the UK's Carbon Trust at the Signing Ceremony for the Cooperative Memorandum



▶ Samples of products with carbon labeling



▶ Award ceremony for the first batch of accreditations for Taiwan Product Carbon Labeling

4. In 2011, the EPA's Environmental Professionals Training Institute held four training courses on product carbon footprint and the process of applying for carbon labeling. A total of 317 personnel took part.

5. In 2011, documents covering regulatory principles for four categories of products were completed, and three handbooks of guidelines for carbon footprints for three categories of products were compiled.

6. Three carbon footprint practice sessions were held – one each in northern, central, and southern Taiwan – and certificates were later awarded to 33 of the attendees who provided evidence of having received supplementary training.

3) Evaluation of carbon labeling

1. On 29 January 2010, the EPA announced the *Protocols for Establishing the Evaluation Committee for Promoting Product Carbon Labeling* and set up the Evaluation Committee for Promoting Product Carbon Labeling. The committee is composed of experts from government, industry and academia, and has met 12 times as of June 2013. Its associated technical teams, audit teams, and promotional teams have met on 76 occasions.

2. On 6 May 2010, the EPA completed the *Operational Protocols for Product Carbon Labeling*

and the *Operational Protocols for Pilot Period Applications for Product Carbon Labeling Certification*. These regulations cover applications for product carbon labeling, as well as matters related to the evaluation, use, and management of such products. Manufacturers will be able to apply to use the Taiwan Carbon Label, and, after gaining EPA approval, will be able to use it either directly on the product, on its packaging, or on other marketing material to show the carbon footprint data for the product.

3. In order to provide a basis for comparing the carbon footprints of products in different categories, it is necessary to formulate a set of regulations, called Product Category Rules for Carbon Footprint (CF-PCR). However, there is presently no international standard for CF-PCR. Thus, in July 2010, the EPA formulated the *Formulation Guidelines for Product Category Rules for Carbon Footprint* to be used as the basis for formulating CF-PCR, thus giving each category of product a single formula for calculating carbon footprint. This will also help in the promotion of carbon reduction systems in the future. As of June 2013, 47 product category rules for carbon footprint have been completed and announced.

4. In June 2010, the EPA held the Award Ceremony for the First Batch of Accreditations for Taiwan Product Carbon Labeling. Seven products manufactured by five manufacturers were awarded the first batch of

Product Carbon Labeling Certificates.

5. In November 2010, the EPA completed registration for six auditing agencies qualified to conduct product carbon footprint audits. The decision was intended to facilitate third party product carbon footprint auditing and the issuing of audit declarations. As of June 2013, ten audit agencies have been registered with the EPA.

6. As of June 2013, 160 products from 50 manufacturers have applied for and obtained the Product Carbon Labeling Certificates. These manufacturers will need to provide specific pledges to cut the greenhouse gas emissions for their product in the future and to label the product carbon footprint on their product, as well as help educate the general public. Initial estimates show carbon emission reductions around 11 million kg CO₂e.

4) Promoting international cooperation and exchanges on product carbon labeling

1. In December 2010, the EPA held the Taiwan-UK Product Carbon Labeling and Carbon Reduction Technology Promotion Symposium, which was attended by 57 participants. The symposium provided an opportunity for Taiwan and the UK to build a mutually beneficial cooperative relationship to work together on issues of common concern such as developing an international product carbon labeling system, GHG reduction technology, and developing low-carbon commercial practices.

2. In 2011, the EPA facilitated the signing of a cooperative memorandum between Taiwan's Industrial Technology Research Institute and the UK's Carbon Trust to promote product carbon labeling. At the same time the EPA held the International Forum on Carbon Labeling that was attended by experts from government, industry, and academia from the UK, Japan, China, and other nations.

3. On 5 June 2013, Taiwan was invited to attend the World Trade Organization's Committee on Trade and Environment meeting in Switzerland to report on the development of Taiwan's carbon labeling system. France is the only nation that has considered drafting regulations for a mandatory carbon labeling system. France is now developing an environmental labeling system and has already conducted related research as well as initiated pilot programs. The EPA took this

opportunity to learn from France's valuable experience by scheduling visits in June 2013 with France's Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy along with Bureau Veritas and two large French corporations – Casino and E. Leclerc – both of which have launched preliminary carbon labeling plans. In addition to providing a chance for meaningful exchange, this trip afforded the EPA a better understanding of how France is promoting its environmental footprint labeling system and the direction of future developments.

Aligning Taiwan with International Carbon Labeling Practice

The EPA is stepping up its involvement with various government agencies in order to speed up the creation of emission factors for measuring carbon footprints in Taiwan. The EPA is currently creating a carbon data disclosure service and calculation software that will allow Taiwan's manufacturers to quickly and easily calculate the carbon footprint of their products. The EPA will continue to work with other government departments to hold seminars for manufacturers and industry associations on applying for carbon labeling.

The EPA will continue augmenting the product carbon labeling system in order to align Taiwan with international practice. The EPA is calling upon domestic enterprises to join in the carbon footprint disclosure scheme and apply for the Taiwan Carbon Label for their products, and also to pledge to reduce emissions by searching for reduction hotspots in their operations. The EPA has also set up the Taiwan Product Carbon Footprint Information Network (<http://cfp.epa.gov.tw>) and has started receiving electronic applications through its Product Carbon Labeling Certificate system.

The EPA will continue to observe international developments and is ready to adjust the product carbon labeling system, methods of promotion, and related measures in order to collaborate in implementing any future international unified standards. The EPA is also willing to sign bilateral agreements with developed nations such as the UK to facilitate mutual recognition of product carbon labeling for imported/exported products, and thus further increase the benefits of Taiwan's product carbon labeling system.

Working with US to Monitor Atmospheric Quality over South China Sea

Since February 2013, Taiwan and a number of Southeast Asian nations have been working with the US NASA on the 7 South East Asian Studies (7-SEAS) project. This is the first time that there has been an international effort to systematically monitor and compare the quality of the atmosphere in the South China Sea region. The results will be published in international academic journals by the end of the year.

The cooperation between the Taiwan EPA, the US NASA, and a number of Southeast Asian nations over 7-SEAS involves integrating monitoring facilities in each nation. Since February 2013, for a period of about four months, precision instruments monitored air quality on the Thailand-Myanmar border; in northern Vietnam; and on Mt. Lulin, the Hengchun Peninsula, Dongsha Islands and Nansha Islands of Taiwan. This is the first time that there has been an international program to systematically monitor and evaluate the quality of the atmosphere in the South China Sea region, and the results are liable to attract wide international attention. The EPA was recently informed that the internationally-esteemed journal *Atmospheric Environment* will publish a special report of 28 papers regarding this monitoring effort before the end of 2013.

The 7-SEAS international atmospheric monitoring project was drawn up and orchestrated by US NASA, with the seven primary participating nations being Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Malaysia. The objective of the project is to investigate the long-distance transboundary transmission of pollutants from flame cultivation and open field biomass burning in Southeast Asia, and the interactions between biomass burning and atmospheric pollutants, the environment, radiation, and climate patterns.

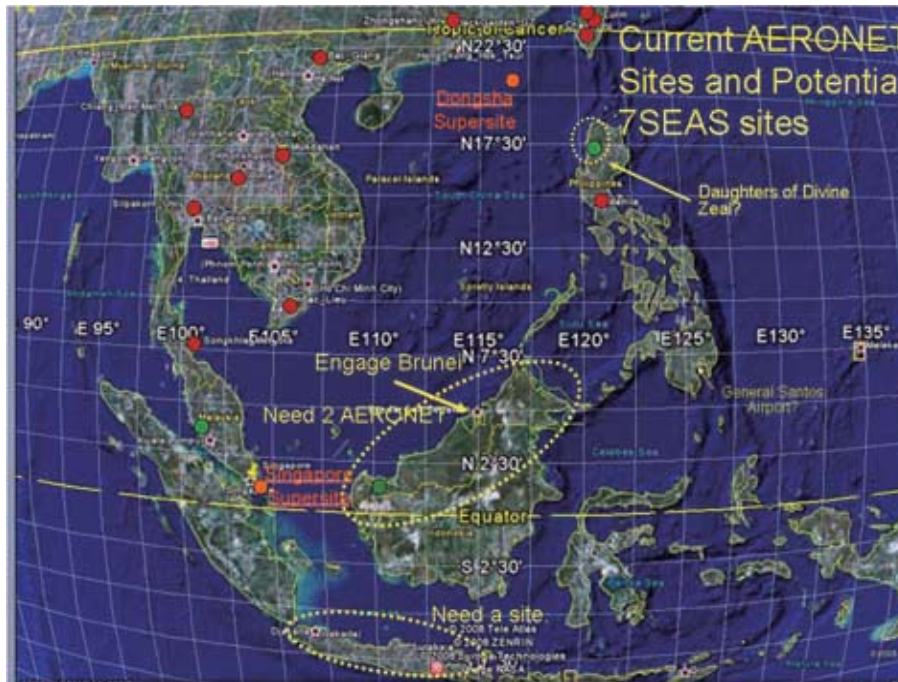
The EPA played its part in the 7-SEAS research and monitoring projects by, for the first time, providing air quality monitoring instruments that were set up on Mt. Doi Ang (Doi Ang Khan) in Thailand to collect data for comparison studies. Overall, the experiments have revealed the chemical composition and special characteristics of pollutants from biomass burning on the Indo-China Peninsula. For Taiwan specifically, analysis of the monitoring data has yielded the tentative discovery that pollutants from biomass

burning are present at over 3,000 meters in the upper atmosphere and are being transported toward Taiwan during periodic changes in atmospheric patterns, with the possibility of impacting air quality over the western Taiwan plain and Hengchun Peninsula.

Taiwan is located downwind of prevailing air currents passing over Southeast Asia, and is thus well-placed for determining the transmission mechanisms and routes of pollutants originating from biomass burning on the Indo-China Peninsula. In 2009, the EPA joined forces with the National Science Council, the Coast Guard Administration, National Central University, Dongsha Atoll National Park, and the Marine Bureau of the Kaohsiung City Government to establish an air quality monitoring station on Dongsha Atoll. In 2010, the EPA linked up with the US NASA to simultaneously station two monitoring vehicles – one from each agency – on the Dongsha Atoll for six months of cooperative monitoring. In 2012, the EPA set up solar radiation instruments on Nansha Atoll.

The experience in international cooperation accumulated by the EPA over the last few years has been the basis for this year's successful participation in the large-scale, systematic series of research and monitoring projects. In addition to the US and the Southeast Asian nations that took part in this year's 7-SEAS project, 14 domestic academic/research institutions were also involved, including the EPA, the National Science Council, and National Central University. The observations and experiments primarily focused upon simultaneously analyzing baseline data from ground monitoring stations combined with data from satellite remote sensing, radar, and an international ground monitoring network. The operation schedule for Taiwan's Formosa II satellite was specially adjusted so that it could be employed during the research period to take ultra-high resolution images of the Indo-China

Peninsula, which were used to identify types of burning and their locations.



Map showing current distribution of 7-SEAS monitoring stations

Solid Waste

Establishing an Integrated Platform for Exchange of Second Hand Goods

“An 11-year old boy wanted a bicycle. His father had a rice cooker in good working order which he didn’t need, so he took it to a Happy Swapping Station and swapped it for a bike. The boy was really happy and wanted to ride it home...” This touching little story happened at a Happy Swapping Station run by New Taipei City Environmental Protection Bureau (EPB). These government-run stations are a way for unwanted used goods to get a new lease on life and make someone else happy. The EPA is now building on this success by drawing up plans for an integrated second hand goods exchange information platform that will allow the public to easily find information on exchanging used goods and extending their life spans.

When it comes to the reuse of second hand goods, most people in Taiwan are already familiar with the periodic auctions of refurbished furniture held by local government EPBs. Keelung City, Taichung City, Tainan City, Taipei City and Kaohsiung City all have working wonders that make good use of discarded items. However, both the government and private sector also often hold flea markets for second hand goods, or operate exchange platforms to encourage people to cherish their material possessions more and develop the good habit of not wasting resources, as reusing resources can significantly reduce volumes of waste.

Government schemes for second hand goods are mainly implemented through local government environmental protection bureaus. Some of the particularly effective schemes include:

- Taipei City’s Expanded Wisdom Book Warehouse – for exchanging second hand books
- New Taipei City’s Surplus Goods Coupling Platform (part of the Happy Swapping Station) – donates recycled second hand goods to disadvantaged groups or households in difficulty and allows members of the public to swap their surplus goods.

· Taichung City's Second Hand Goods Bank – in which donors receive credits depending upon what items they donate, which can then be exchanged for other second hand goods in the “bank.”

· Yilan County's Story Express – Creative Charity Second Hand Goods Market – combines artistic and literary events with charity donation drives.

· Chiayi City's Resource-treasuring Flea Market – combines various platforms into one channel for donating second hand goods to Chiayi's Renewal Garden, a center for disabled people.

Other counties and cities have also created exchange platforms for second hand goods, or are holding regular flea markets. Private sector organizations have also established a variety of exchange platforms for second hand goods, each with its own special features. For example, the urban collection centers for Da Fon Environmental Technology, a waste clearing company, are a far cry from the traditional image of recycling centers as dirty, messy places. Their convenience store-style centers, where people can leave second hand goods to be sold, are a revolutionary new concept in recycling. They have also attracted public interest by establishing an online platform for goods-for-goods swaps that also gives points for every successful match. The points are recorded in a member's carbon reduction account and can later be used

to participate in an online tree growing game.

Regardless of whether the platforms have been set up by the government or the private sector, knowledge of them has been spread through government agencies, citizen groups and local communities, and public interest is being served as more people learn to value resources and protect the environment. However, information dissemination has yet to be fully integrated, and there is still no comprehensive plan for continuous public education and guidance, which means that some members of the public are still unaware of the second hand goods swapping channels available and do not know where to begin looking. The EPA is thus currently focusing more on reuse – one of the 5Rs in the important government policy of “resource recycling for zero waste” – and this year formulated a plan to integrate the available information on used goods exchange in the public and private sectors. Resource recycling is one of the priority tasks for the Low-carbon Sustainable Homeland Program, and so the EPA is in the process of integrating Taiwan's information platforms for exchanging used goods into a central platform called I2so5, which in Mandarin Chinese sounds like “love second hand goods.” In accordance with the Low-carbon Sustainable Homeland Action Plan accreditation scheme, the EPA is also gradually spreading word of second hand goods exchange platforms throughout every township, village and community in Taiwan.

Sustainable Development

Geopolitical Monitor Lauds Taiwan Recycling System Lessons for Canada

On 27 May 2013, *Geopolitical Monitor*, a Canadian intelligence publication and consultancy, published an article on its Web site (<http://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com>) entitled “Taiwan's Recycling Revolution: Lessons for Canada.”

The article was written by Zachary Fillingham, a special correspondent for the journal. It pointed out that from 1998 to 2010, Taiwan's GDP grew by 47%, and yet the daily per capita volume of refuse produced fell by 57.5%. Canada, by contrast, still has one of the highest per capita refuse rates in the world. The article analyzed Taiwan's 4-in-1 recycling scheme, which it cited as a key factor in Taiwan's refuse reduction success along with pay-per-bag

refuse collection and the EPA's Resource Recycling Fund.

Fillingham pointed out that pay-per-bag refuse collection gives people an economic incentive to recycle as much as possible and thus also gives them a greater sense of responsibility with regards to reducing refuse. From 1999 to 2003, some of Taiwan's cities were able to reduce refuse volumes by

28.3% solely from implementing pay-per-bag refuse collection.

Fillingham also suggested that the problems encountered by the province of Ontario's pioneering eco fee system could partially be solved by a mechanism employed by Taiwan's recycling fund. He explained in detail how Taiwan's Resource Recycling Fund was established and funded by the central government – which laid out the scope of its operation and how it should be funded in the future – and how day-to-day administration of the fund and adjustments to it are made by local governments so that the money is available to local governments, recycling enterprises, and local communities. The Taiwan model eliminates any public suspicion that the national government is meddling in affairs that have been traditionally controlled by sub-national governments. It also provides economic incentives for manufacturers to create innovative new green products that reduce

paying the fee to the recycling fund. To conclude the article Fillingham warned that Canada's growing refuse problem needs a revolutionary new solution and that Taiwan's method – which does not involve the imposition of new taxes or central government interference in local affairs – could be the answer.

The EPA is grateful for the recognition for Taiwan's refuse reduction and recycling achievements and the penetrating analysis of related government policies published by *Geopolitical Monitor*. The EPA also expresses its gratitude to the residents of Taiwan, as well as environmental personnel at every level, for making environmental protection a part of their daily lives and gaining international recognition for Taiwan's recycling and refuse reduction achievements, based upon a model that other nations can adopt. The full article can be read online at <http://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/topic/environment/>.

Environmental Sanitation

Cleaner and Greener Indigenous Villages

EPA Minister Stephen Shu-hung Shen has been calling for more attention to be paid to indigenous settlements, and thus, on 2 September 2013, traveled to Taitung County's Donghe Township. He was accompanied by the Taitung County Magistrate Justin Huang and the Director of the Taitung County Environmental Protection Bureau (EPB), Ming-en Huang. In Donghe they joined local Amis residents in a clean-up activity to promote the government's 5S campaign.

There are approximately 520,000 indigenous persons in Taiwan – 2% of the total population – concentrated in 55 townships, towns and cities in 12 of Taiwan's counties/special municipalities. Indigenous villages are often in areas of outstanding natural beauty, and their inhabitants are renowned for their unique cultures and celebratory ceremonies, all factors that have made them a significant tourism resource.

The environmental clean-up activity in Donghe Township was organized by the Taitung County EPB and was personally led by EPA Minister Stephen Shu-hung Shen. The clean-up team included almost 300 personnel from: Corps 81 of the Coast Guard Administration's East Coast Patrol Office; the Taiyuan Skill Training Institute of the Agency of Corrections, Ministry of Justice; the Township Representative Council; the Donghe Health Center; the Household

Registration Office; the Farmers' Association; an irrigation workstation; the Counseling Center for Military Reserves; a Taipower Service Center; the Donghe Emergency Rescue Team; and local environmental volunteers. The team helped out with sweeping the streets, cleaning the gutters, weeding, removing fly posters and banners, and eliminating breeding grounds for mosquitoes. It adopted the motto "Take trash to where it belongs for a beautiful homeland with a clean environment." The activity was part of the 5S campaign (*seiri, seiton, seiso, seiketsu, and shitsuke*, Japanese for tidying up, reorganizing, sweeping, cleaning and cultivating good habits). This campaign is now being promoted in indigenous villages to raise the quality of residential environments.

The upkeep of residential environments requires the participation of the whole community. The 5S concept

has proven ideal in getting indigenous communities to take practical measures in maintaining a clean living environment. This initiative has mobilized proactive

efforts to clean up residential areas and create a high quality living environment that is also good for the greater environment.



▶ EPA Minister Shen with the residents of Donghe who participated in the clean up

Air

EPA Research Shows that Planting Certain Trees near Industrial Parks Improves Air Quality

The EPA has been working with research organizations to select suitable species of trees that are able to improve air quality near industrial parks. An on-site survey of species presently growing at the boundaries and along main roads in industrial parks with concentrations of petroleum and steel industrial operations was conducted to select the species that displayed superior health. Additional evidence was also gathered from laboratory experiments that compared the ability of various species to purify polluted air. The EPA now has a list of species that have been proven to remove pollutants from the air in petroleum and steel industrial parks.

The species most suitable for planting near petroleum industry zones include Taiwan zelkova, Chinese pistache, ponga oil tree, lobular terminalia, lemon eucalyptus, Norfolk Island pine, bishopwood, Chinese tamarix, silvery messerschmidia, and India laurel fig. The species most suitable for planting near steel industry zones include eucalyptus urophylla, Chinese tamarix, date palm, silvery messerschmidia, Norfolk Island pine, and India laurel fig. The EPA is now recommending industrial park operators who

wish to green their parks, and developers conducting environmental impact assessments, to plant the above species in green belts or wherever else greening is required. The EPA will soon be publishing relevant information on its Web site for viewing by the public.

The petroleum and steel industries have traditionally always been highly polluting and highly energy consumptive, as their manufacturing processes

unavoidably produce air pollutants. The main pollutants produced by the petroleum industry are VOCs. For the steel industry there are three main pollutant categories according to the manufacturing process involved: SO_x, NO_x, hydrogen fluoride, and suspended fine particulate matter in smelting plants; particulate matter and dioxins from electric arc furnaces; and factories that reuse fly ash. Environmental agencies and industrial enterprises have been doing a fine job of reducing emissions through tightening emission standards and other measures but some air pollutants are still finding their way into the atmosphere, which is why planting trees that can naturally purify the air and beautify the environment is a sound strategy.

To assess the health of trees that have been planted near industrial parks, the EPA has drawn up a 1~5 scale based upon the proportion of each tree that show signs of disease, leaf loss, yellowing, browning, withering, or browning of leaves, with a higher score indicating a healthier tree. A recent survey by the EPA discovered that trees planted close to the aforementioned Category 2 industrial parks all had a health index in the 2 to 4 range, indicating that there is a need for

more trees or different species to be planted.

The findings in the field were cross-checked with measurement data from lab tests using environmental test chambers and fumigation cabinets. The results of the lab tests showed that the best species for planting in areas with high concentrations of sulfur dioxide in the air are Norfolk Island pine, beef wood, Taiwan zelkova, date palm, and Chinese tamarix. The most suitable species for planting in areas with high concentrations of NO_x in the air are Chinese tamarix, Taiwan zelkova, Chinese pistache, beef wood, and lemon eucalyptus. The best species for planting in areas with high concentrations of ethylene in the air are Taiwan zelkova, Chinese pistache, bishopwood, and lobular terminalia. The most effective species for planting in areas with high concentrations of toluene in the air are poonga oil tree, date palm, beef wood, Chinese pistache, and bishopwood. The best species for planting in areas with high concentrations of ozone in the air are Chinese pistache, silvery messerschmidia, Chinese tamarix, Indian almond, and India laurel fig. And the best species for planting in areas with high concentrations of hydrogen fluoride in the air are lobular terminalia, India laurel fig, Chinese tamarix, and Taiwan zelkova.



▶ Laboratory experiments test the ability of various tree species to purify polluted air

- The species most suitable for planting to remove pollutants from the air in petroleum and steel industrial parks.

Air pollutant	Suggested species to remove pollutants
sulfur dioxide	Norfolk Island pine, beef wood, Taiwan zelkova, date palm, Chinese tamarix
NO_x	Chinese tamarix, Taiwan zelkova, Chinese pistache, beef wood, lemon eucalyptus
ethylene	Taiwan zelkova, Chinese pistache, bishopwood, lobular terminalia
toluene	poonga oil tree, date palm, beef wood, Chinese pistache, bishopwood.
ozone	Chinese pistache, silvery messerschmidia, Chinese tamarix, Indian almond, India laurel fig
hydrogen fluoride	lobular terminalia, India laurel fig, silvery messerschmidia, Chinese tamarix, Taiwan zelkova

News Briefs

Those Who Report Fraudulent Subsidy Claims Eligible for Rewards

In order to properly handle recyclable wastes, the Resource Recycling Management Fund of the EPA offers subsidies to the recycling and disposal industries for the purpose of enhancing the outcomes of recycling. It turned out, however, that some, albeit very few, of the recycling and disposal enterprises defrauded the EPA of the subsidies. As a result, the EPA is encouraging the general public to report on fraudulent activities. By doing so, not only will justice and fairness be able to enhance eco-friendliness, informants are also eligible to receive a stipulated reward amount. According to the guidelines formulated by the EPA on 3 July 2013, the general public can provide evidence to the EPA on how these enterprises make fraudulent claims to the subsidies (such as tampering with the weight records, making the recyclable wastes enter the factories repeatedly, and forging the monitoring video images, etc). Once the EPA verifies the authenticity of the reported cases and administers penalties, those who reported on the fraudulent claims are eligible to receive 20% of the subsidies in question as a reward.

The EPA guarantees that strict confidentiality is observed during the processing of the reported cases.

Specially designated personnel are assigned to handle such fraudulent claims with assurances against undue exposure. If the general public have any questions concerning reporting fraudulent activity, they may call 02-23705888 ext. 3610 to make inquiries, or log on to the EPA's resource recycling Web site at: <http://recycle.epa.gov.tw/epa/index.asp>.

Amendment to Standards for Defining Hazardous Industrial Waste Preannounced

Using the Basel Convention's identification methods of mixed scrap metals as a reference, the EPA announced the draft amendment to the *Standards for Defining Hazardous Industrial Waste*. In this amendment, light-emitting diodes, wafer scraps, sludge, as well as mixed scrap metals containing beryllium, antimony, tellurium, and thallium were moved from Attachment 2 to Attachment 1, which defines hazardous industrial wastes formed during manufacturing processes. The other 12 types of industrial wastes were also relocated to the category of General Industrial Wastes for control purposes. Through these amendments the EPA aims to keep in line with international methods of classifying industrial wastes. The EPA clearly specifies the "Application for Non-Classification of Hazardous Industrial Wastes Engendered during the Manufacturing Process"

and its related affidavit, so that industries can apply to their local competent authorities for non-classification. In addition, the EPA listed the "Residues after the Treatment of Mixed Scrap Metals" as targets of control under the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedures (TCLP) testing process, so that industrial wastes can be properly controlled. To make the demarcations clear, the EPA takes into consideration actual implementation conditions and makes adjustments of the terms and conditions.

Amendment to Management Regulations for Construction Project Air Pollution Control Facilities Preannounced

The EPA preannounced its amendment of the *Management Regulations for Construction Projects Air Pollution Control*

Facilities. In this amendment, "dredging" was added as a category of construction project, and the engineering scale of first degree dredging was clearly specified. The oil composition limits for machinery used in construction projects were revised as well.

The EPA points out that the air pollution control fees for construction projects were revised and announced in July 2013, and will become effective on 1 January 2014. The categories of dredging and the classification of the different levels of dredging are all defined in the management regulations, and are amended accordingly to facilitate the levying of air pollution control fees. In addition, the regulations for the oil composition limits for machinery used in construction projects were similarly revised.



▶ *Construction projects are large contributors to stationary source air pollution*

Draft Amendment to the Regulations Governing General Waste Recycling, Clearance, and Disposal Preannounced

The EPA preannounced the amendment of the *Regulations Governing General Waste Recycling, Clearance, and Disposal*. The key points of the amendment are: (1) Adjustments are made in line with policies and actual implementation conditions, and definitions of the proper nouns used in these regulations are added; (2) Additions are made to the effect that recycling and reuse should be high priority considerations when treating general wastes; (3) Additions are made on the definition and

standard operating procedures (SOP) of resource recycling stations, so that the general public can smoothly cooperate with resource recycling activities while maintaining the peacefulness of their residential area; (4) Additions are made about the definition of garbage trucks, their equipment and the labeling of such equipment, so that when these garbage trucks are on duty, they can temporarily park on streets; (5) Additions are made about the management measures and operating procedures governing general wastes when they enter incineration plants or landfills; (6) Stipulated that landfills should not be set up within 60 meters of a fault zone. Also, the thickness of impermeable material installed is expanded from 0.15 cm to over 0.2 cm.

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