

3A03 Chan Sum Yi

A Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my great concern over the energy efficiency and conservation issues in Hong Kong and to offer some advice. Energy will not last forever, believe it or not, some experts argued oil will run out in just 53 years, natural gas in 54 years, and coal in 110 years if the consumption keeps increasing at the same rate. These alarming figures remind us tangible approaches are needed to deal with this pressing matter. While scientists are working their fingers to the bone to find other sources of renewable energy, as students, we should also step up and help conserve energy.

There was one time when I walked into a classroom where all the lights were turned on despite there was sufficient natural sunlight and then realized both the fans and air-conditioners were on. This clearly shows that some students are not environmentally-conscious enough as they do not seem to understand when we are feeling contented and cool, the Earth is actually sweating like a pig. The truth is not only lights and air-conditioners, but turning on excessive electrical appliances when not necessary is simply a waste of energy. Furthermore, it intensifies carbon emission and release of other harmful greenhouse gases which will result in global warming. In view of this, I suggest flicking that switch to protect the precious energy sources and the environment. Try to make it a habit, soon you will find energy conservation is not that hard.

As far as I am concerned, the majority of Hong Kong citizens acknowledge that climate change is happening, the sea level is rising, the energy sources is running out. Yet, some of them choose to turn a deaf ear to this matter; they put their convenience and comfort instead of energy conservation as the top priority. It is exactly why the energy crisis does not seem to be getting any better in spite of being a popular subject in the past few years. Human activities and energy efficiency are entwined closely. Thus, people ought to take the initiative to alleviate the problem. Knowing this, apart from changing our own lifestyle, we could go the extra mile to raise others' awareness. For instance, we could volunteer in energy-saving related campaigns and movements in or outside of the campus to make a constructive contribution and influence other people in society.

As young educated individuals, we are capable of being a part of building a better land for generations to come. Wastage of assets today will be the reason for deficiency

tomorrow. Let's work hand in hand before things become beyond redemption.

Yours faithfully,

Sammi Chan

Member of Environmental Protection Committee