



The plastic beverage bottles consumption is high in Hong Kong. In 2018, there were around **4.6 million polyethylene terephthalate (“PET”) bottles entered the landfill every day**¹. Lack of incentives may be one of the reasons contributed to low recycling rate in Hong Kong. The Government is taking multiple measures on minimising the generation and use of plastic beverage bottles. One of the measures is providing incentive to encourage the public to return used plastic beverage bottles for recycling.

With reference to the successful experience on boosting the plastic bottles recycling rate in other countries such as Norway, Australia and China, the Government introduced the Reverse Vending Machine (“RVM”) at Community Green Stations (“CGSs”) to encourage the return of used plastic beverage bottles. **BEC has been commissioned by the Environmental Protection Department (“EPD”) to conduct the Pilot Trial Scheme on RVMs since 2019**, with the purpose to test out the functions and technologies of different RVM models, and to cultivate habit of proper recycling of plastic beverage bottles in the community.

1. There were 139 tonnes per day of PET bottles disposed of at landfill in 2018, assume the weight of each PET bottle is 30g, the total number of PET bottles disposed of at landfill per day is 4.63 million. Data retrieved from “Monitoring of Solid Waste in Hong Kong – Waste Statistics for 2018”, published by the EPD.

The RVMs are equipped with barcode scanners to identify acceptable objects, i.e. common plastic beverage bottles circulated in Hong Kong. The weight sensors of RVMs enable the machine to reject bottles with residue liquid. The bottles accepted will be compressed and stored in the RVMs for recycling.

Before you put the plastic beverage bottles into the RVMs at CGSs for recycling, **please note:**



The sleeves with barcodes should be attached on the bottles



Empty the liquid before putting the bottles into the RVM



Only bottles with volume ranging from 200ml to 1500ml will be accepted

About Business Environment Council Limited 商界環保協會有限公司

Business Environment Council Limited 商界環保協會有限公司 (“BEC”) is an independent, charitable membership organisation, established by the business sector in Hong Kong. Since its establishment in 1992, BEC has been at the forefront of promoting environmental excellence by advocating the uptake of clean technologies and practices which reduce waste, conserve resources, prevent pollution and improve corporate environmental and social responsibility. BEC offers sustainable solutions and professional services covering advisory, research, assessment, training and award programmes for government, business and the community, thus enabling environmental protection and contributing to the transition to a low carbon economy.