

# Journey Towards Green Future – from Diesel to Electric

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Electric vehicles are an important part of meeting global goals on climate change, prominently in mitigating carbon dioxide emissions. However, there are reports questioning the lifecycle climate impact of EVs due to the reason that they run on electricity which could be largely produced from fossil fuels, and the considerable impact from the manufacturing of battery.



Recent research indicates that lifecycle emissions for electric vehicles are much smaller in countries which get most of their electricity from low carbon emission fuel mix. Regarding the numbers, according to EMSD the energy makeup of Hong Kong is 48% Natural Gas, 24% Coal and 28% Nuclear and renewables (renewables is less than 0.1%).

Our Club has taken various actions, we launched a solar powered EV sampan in 2022, and launched an electric tractor in March this year.

Members who have visited Middle Island may have already experienced the solar powered EV sampan, certainly a delight which makes the short journey quiet and comfortable. Furthermore, the solar powered sampan saves around 30 liters of petrol per one day operation, yearly it will reduce greenhouse emissions which is equivalent to 28.6 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. The Club is evaluating the performance and financials of the solar powered EV sampan and if the results are satisfactory, all sampans at the three clubhouses will be gradually replaced.



The Club has been relying on a diesel tractor to tow boat trailers at Kellett Island since 2000 – it has previously been used for the new airport construction and sold to Club when it was no longer needed. For over two decades, the tractor was an essential tool for the Club, until a problem arose in 2022 - the tractor developed an oil leak, which was not only a safety hazard but also a potential environmental threat.

The Club ordered electric tractor after thorough consideration. The electric tractor will not only reduce the Club's reliance on fossil fuel and overall carbon emission in daily operation, but it will also relieve the club from rising fuel cost and maintenance cost. The tractor is also more efficient and quieter comparing with diesel tractors.

In conclusion, the Club's journey from diesel to electric is a testament to the importance of sustainability. By embracing eco-friendly alternatives, the Club has not only improved its operations but also demonstrated its commitment to a greener future. The move towards EV is just one of the many steps we can take to make our planet a better place to live. 🌱