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Title: Visit to Castle Peak Power Station

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Actually, we have a brief idea of about how electricity is generated before the visit to the power station since we have learnt this during the physics lesson. However, after the visit, we have known a much clearer picture of the power generation in Hong Kong. We have learnt more detailed processes involved, such as the crushing the coal granules into powder for easier combustion, compressing the coal granules and spraying water on them to prevent them from being blown away.

Yet, the most appealing thing to us is that the enterprise actually has a high environmental awareness. Since combustion of coal not only generates electric energy, but also a lot of pollutants including oxide of nitrogen and sulphur. Because these are acidic gases, they thus install scrubbers containing calcium oxide to neutralize the acidic gases. As told by the tour guide, in order to make the neutralization more effective, oxide is made into semi-solid. Afterward, the salt in the scrubbers is used as building material. On the other hand, the ash from the combustion of coal is also used as fertilizer since it usually contains some minerals like calcium, iron and aluminum. These can be the nutrients for plant growth. All in all, we really appreciate the fact that CLP is willing to bear the social responsibility. Although the installation of scrubbers and treatment of combustion ash can be quite costly, they still try their best to contribute to environmental protection as well as reduce waste.

Photos:



The metal ball used to crush coal granules into powder for combustion



A large heap of coal granules



Bulldozers for transferring coal



The vessel transporting coal to Hong Kong