Despoliation of Hong Kong’s rural environment has been going on for decades with container, lorry and car parks, builders’ and scrap metal yards, vehicle dumps, waste tips and open storage besmirching the landscape. In a belated attempt to fight this, planning legislation was extended to the New Territories during the early 1990s. Yet recent incidents of deliberate accumulation of refuse on agricultural land (“waste mountains”) have exposed limitations in the law and highlighted a new element – danger.

What are the existing controls on land use? How adequate are they? What might be done to improve them? What are the motivations behind waste mountains?

Adrian But, Barrister-at-law of Sir Oswald Cheung’s Chambers, will lead the discussion. Christine Loh, Under-Secretary for the Environment, will also take part.

Light refreshments will be available.

If you would like to take part or attend, please notify Flora Leung at fkleung@hku.hk on or before 25 November 2016 (Friday)