



# PRESS Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Pollution Control Department

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## PCD has rehabilitated the Klity Creek with almost 50% operation progress as planned

Mr. Somchai Songpragob, Deputy Director General of Pollution Control Department (PCD) said that the Supreme Administrative Court's judgment dated 10 January B.E. 2556 decided PCD to resolve lead contamination problem in the area of the Klity Creek, Tong Pha Phom District, Kanchanaburi Province by providing action plan and method, operating rehabilitation, analyzing samples until the lead levels in water, sediment, plants, and aquatic animals fell under standard levels, and paying each petitioner a compensation of 177,199.55 baht. In accordance with this judgment effectively, PCD has formulated the implementation plan to resolve lead contamination problem in the area of the Klity Creek by signing contract of service with Khon Kaen University as an advisor for determining appropriate rehabilitation guideline accepted by all stakeholders. In addition, PCD has signed another contract of service with the Better World Green Public Company Limited for operating the Klity Creek rehabilitation project with 1,000-day operation period started from November B.E. 2557 which has included activities on secure landfill construction, additional check dam construction, creek dredging, and contaminated area rehabilitation around old mineral processing plant. As of 27 June B.E. 2562, the project has been operated for 590 days with almost 50% operation progress. Progressed activities have been including area survey, conduction of EIA preventing and resolving measure, secure landfill construction, and preparation of 2 additional check dams' construction.

Mr. Somchai said that there have been 4 cases related to Klity including 1 administrative case between villagers and PCD, 1 civil case between PCD and the Lead Concentrate (Thailand) Company Limited, and 2 civil cases between villagers and the Company. Regarding to these 2 civil cases between villagers and the Company, the Supreme Court made the judgment and decided the defendant to pay the compensation to the villagers and rehabilitate the Klity Creek with their own expense until the creek quality has recovered the government's standard levels for consumption. However, the defendant did not precede the rehabilitation of Klity Creek according to the Supreme Court's judgment. Consequently, plaintiff's lawyer submitted a petition to the Kanchanaburi Provincial Court to ask PCD, a government agency with expertise and have already to operate the rehabilitation of the Klity Creek as the Supreme Administrative Court's judgment, to proceed the rehabilitation of the Klity Creek instead of the defendant who has to pay expenses in accordance with Section 358 of the Civil Procedure Code. The Kanchanaburi Provincial Court asked PCD for comment. PCD has accepted that due to the responsibility of the Klity Creek rehabilitation under the Supreme Administrative Court's judgment.

The environmental quality monitoring result of the Klity Creek in B.E. 2561 showed that water quality was determined in standard criteria except that in the rainy season because of strong current and high turbidity. Soil sediment around and under the mineral processing plant was found with high contamination of lead. Moreover, the high contamination of lead in crabs and mussels which lived in soil sediment was found higher than contaminated food standard. Thus, the consumption of these animals should be avoided. Fishes could be consumed as usual but fish entrails consumption should be avoided. Most plants and vegetable could be consumed as usual. However, PCD has publicized environmental monitoring information in Klity Creek area to stakeholders continuously by conducting notice board for reporting environmental quality result and notice board made from community map as well.