



# PRESS Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Pollution Control Department

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## **MONRE has warned risk areas to keep up with municipal waste problem during flood periods**

H.E. Mr. Varawut Silpa-Archa, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment revealed that nowadays, it is entering rainy season of Thailand with continuous heavy rain covering major parts of the country. According to the weather focus of Meteorological Department, there will be more rainfall than the previous year which may cause flood in many areas of Thailand. This will not only affect waste management problem in municipal areas and waste disposal facilities of Local Administration Organizations in many areas but also affect the environment and human health.

The Minister said that he was highly concerned about this case because flood problem usually occurred in lowland which caused damage to people's property and consequent problem on municipal waste management. The Local Administration Organizations is responsible for handling with this problem. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) by Pollution Control Department (PCD) has collected data of waste disposal facilities which might have risk to get effects from flood problem normally by using flood risk area data of Water Crisis Prevention Center, Department of Water Resource and data of the Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (Public Organization): GISTDA in the joint assessment with waste disposal facility data throughout the country.

Mr. Pralong Dumrongthai, Director General of PCD said that at present, Permanent Secretary of MONRE has sent the letter to inform Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Interior for informing governors, Director General of Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, and Director General of Department of Local Administration in order to inform Local Administration Organizations in risk areas and Bangkok Governor to keep up with municipal waste problem occurred from flood and to coordinate with other Local Administration Organizations in temporary municipal waste disposal which this preparedness had to be conducted at least 1 month before flood occurrences. Moreover, PCD has already sent the implementation guideline on solid waste management during preparedness, flood occurrence, post-flood occurrence, and recovery periods to Local Administration Organizations and relevant agencies to apply with related implementation for preparedness before flood occurrence.