

PERTUBUHAN PELINDUNG KHAZANAH ALAM MALAYSIA

ORGANIZATION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF NATURAL HERITAGE MALAYSIA

(Reg. Num. PPM-028-10-24022011)

No15, Jalan Akuatik 13/77c, D'kayangan, Seksyen 13, 40100 Shah Alam, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia Tel :+6 03-5512 1006 | Fax : +6 03-5511 1669 | Email : hello@pekamalaysia.org | website: www.pekamalaysia.org

PRESS STATEMENT PEKA MALAYSIA PRESIDENT

NO FURTHER LICENSE RENEWALS FOR LYNAS

Pertubuhan Pelindung Khazanah Alam Malaysia (PEKA) commends the federal government for limiting Lynas' license to a term of 6 months and attaching conditions to its renewal. The government's action represents a very small step forward in tackling this serious environmental issue.

The government's insistence that Lynas must move its cracking and leaching process, which is currently conducted in its plant in Gebeng, Kuantan, out of the country shows how severe the environment is damaged by Lyna and puts to rest any argument that waste materials generated by Lynas are not harmful to humans and the environment.

PEKA views this development as vindication of what environmental groups and other objectors to Lynas have been highlighting till today – Lynas is detrimental to our environment and should cease operations in Malaysia.

While we understand that any solution to this long-running issue will take time, serious questions and concerns about Lynas still remain.

What happens after the 6 months have passed?

How will Lynas be monitored to ensure that it meets the conditions and how will Lynas be penalised if it fails to meet the conditions within the stipulated time?

Furthermore, what will happen to the accumulated radioactive WLP residue, amounting to more than 580, 000 tonnes in the temporary residue storage facility?

If Lynas is sincere about environmental concerns in Malaysia it will not only comply with the conditions but will go beyond the stated measures to put these concerns to rest. Unfortunately, the company remains adamant that its operations are safe and does not harm the environment in any way.

We therefore urge the government to step up its efforts to bring this environmental issue to a close by not issuing another renewal after the 6 months' period is up and to terminate all activities by Lynas before an environmental disaster happens.



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Should anything goes wrong with Lynas, it will dwarf recent environmental disasters such as the Sungai Kim Kim pollution incident in scale. Its negative impact will be much more severe and longer lasting than any tragedy we have faced before and it is something Malaysia and its citizens must avoid at all costs.

We must learn our lesson before it is too late.

END

PUAN SRI TO' PUAN DATUK SHARIFFA SABRINA SYED AKIL PRESIDENT PEKA MALAYSIA 15th AUGUST 2019