



## Department of Primary Industries and Mines Minister of Industry

Rama VI Rd., Bangkok 10400, THAILAND  
Tel. (66 2) 202 3555 Fax. (66 2) 644 8746  
www.dpim.go.th

### PRESS RELEASE

#### **DPIM investigates unknown water seeping up through paddy fields**

DPIM received complaints that foul black water seeped up through the paddy field to the west of the second tailing storage facility of Akara Resources PLC, and the communities expressed concerns that public water source might be contaminated.

**Mr. Jullapong Thaveesri, Deputy Director-General, acting Director-General, Department of Primary Industries and Mines (DPIM)**, said that DPIM was concerned about the livelihood of the communities and realized that the complaints problem may greatly affect to their communities. DPIM has therefore collaborated with Phichit Provincial Industry Office, Phetchabun Provincial Industry Office, Environmental Office 4, Phichit Agriculture Office, Phichit Provincial Peace Maintaining Force, staff from Naresuan University, community representatives from Khao Jed Look and Tai Dong Sub-districts, and the representatives from Akara Resources PLC, to investigate the site and collect water samples. Water sampling was carried out at 6 locations, including (1) the paddy field to the north of the mining lease, (2) Ban Nern Tong upstream area located in the south of the second tailing storage facility, (3) Pa Bua located to the west of the second tailing storage facility, (4) the paddy field located in the south of the third location where the unknown water appeared, (5) the point where the water from the paddy field in Ban Nern Thong and from Klong Rong Hoi meets, and (6) the canal behind the house of the Chief Executive of Khao Jed Look Sub-district Administrative Organization. The samples will be analyzed in a standard laboratory under the supervision of Naresuan University, the Pollution Control Department, and Akara Resources PLC.

DPIM will follow-up the analysis results and report to the public, particularly the communities surrounding the mine, as soon as possible to ensure transparency and the responsibility for the well-being of the public and the environment.

20 November 2017