

# FAQ RELATED TO LYNAS (M) SDN. BHD.'s PROJECT

Atomic Energy Licensing Board  
Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI)  
MALAYSIA

*Ensuring Safety, Security & Safeguarding Peaceful Nuclear Activities*

- If the residues are safe, why has the Government imposed on Lynas to build a Permanent Disposal Facility (PDF)?

The PDF is part of a **comprehensive waste management plan** that Lynas has to provide in their application for the TOL. It is an additional assurance to ensure Lynas has considered all aspects of waste management despite their claims that there will be no waste generated.

(i) Lynas to provide ALL aspects regarding the PDF

(ii) Lynas must submit the plan and location of the PDF regardless of their R&D results where they are able to commercialise, recycle and reuse the residues

(iii) The plan and location of the PDF must be submitted and **approved** within 10 months from the date of the issuance of the TOL

➤ Additional condition imposed by the Government

(iv) The PDF must be located away from populated areas

- Why hasn't AELB published radiation levels of residues in Lynas?

Lynas has NOT begun operations, therefore there are no residues to monitor.

AELB conducts daily monitoring of background radiation levels at 30 locations around Gebeng and the Lynas site. The data is published on the AELB website :

[http://www.aelb.gov.my/aelb/malay/teks/lynas\\_datamonitor.asp](http://www.aelb.gov.my/aelb/malay/teks/lynas_datamonitor.asp)

- The safety, health and environment risks posed by the plant were so high that it would not have met requirements in the United States or Europe and it would be difficult for rare earths to be processed in Europe

The radioactivity levels of rare earths are too low to be regulated and are therefore not regulated in many countries including the US, Europe and Australia. There are rare earths processing plants in the US and in Europe (Estonia)

Excerpt of statement issued by Norman Moore, WA Resources Minister:  
“..no higher than commonly mined mineral sands. The material does not trigger regulatory standards and is considered by the Department of Mines, the WA Radiological Council and the Australian Government to be too low in radiation levels to be regulated as a dangerous good”

Due to concerns raised by the public, the AELB regulates and monitors Lynas’s activities in order to allay public fear

- The public display analysis was inaccurate as it did not take into account the number of people at the recent anti-Lynas demonstration

The public display that was conducted from 3-26 January 2011 was NOT a survey or an opinion poll

It was to provide an opportunity for the public to view and provide **feedback on the documents** that have been submitted by Lynas to AELB in its application for the TOL

334 visitors registered, 1123 comments recorded

Comments and feedback were studied thoroughly at COB of each day during the display period

ALL comments and feedback were reviewed and analysed by the Public Consultative Committee (Jawatankuasa Perundingan Awam (JKPA))

The JKPA then submitted their findings and recommendations to the AELB for their consideration

AELB sat on 30 January 2012 to deliberate on the findings, comments and recommendations of the JKPA, its own review of the documents and the recommendations from IAEA as well as concerns raised by the public

AELB then approved the TOL application by Lynas subject to several conditions

To date, the TOL has NOT been issued

*Terima kasih*

