

**PUBLIC AND MEDIA BRIEFING: JKPA 1<sup>ST</sup> Mar 2012**

No	Question	Answer
1	The Cabinet has asked Lynas to send back their residue to Australia. Is this going to affect the decision that has been made by AELB?	No, it is not. One of our conditions is that Lynas has to give the Letter of Undertaking stating that if it is necessary, they will accept the residue during TOL. The Letter of Undertaking has to be submitted before the license issuance regardless whether they need a PDF or they are very successful in their research to reutilize the residue.
2	There is a percentage of people who refuse Lynas, is this correct?	About 2% - 3% rejected Lynas without any reason. JKPA asked AELB to review comments especially with regard the understanding about Lynas project.
3	The media has received statements from local committees and NGOs concerning about safety and health of the people. How does AELB react towards the statement?	AELB took it very seriously. We will look at the standards that they use when they are saying something is dangerous and we will compare it with our standards and IAEA requirements. AELB had informed the SLSM about this but they have not mentioned what their standards are.
4	Will AELB do one more public review involving local residents?	On the first week of the public review 119 people showed up, the second week 155 people showed up, fewer people showed up in the third week. We received 1,123 comments but only 334 people actually read the documents. Do you think we need another one? The government is constantly listening and if the government requires AELB to do it, we will.
5	You always say that the people make unsubstantial comments, so what kind of standard are you hoping from the	AELB does not regard any complaint as insignificant but the media should be more responsible in bringing bring to the authorities the

	people?	more substantive problems that need our attention. We are here for the people to ensure that safety is always first.
6	When did JKPA present their findings to AELB?	On the third week of January, before the approval of the TOL. JKPA had 7 days of discussions with AELB and Prof Aishah Bidin then presented the findings to the Board.
7	Did AELB consider arranging a visit to China?	We are always comparing but some of the plants in China were built 10 years ago so the technology is not the same. Also, China has different standards from us, we refer to the IAEA but China did not refer to IAEA for standards. But it is worth to visit. To ensure safety, we will learn from bad practices and adopt good practices. Other than China, US has rare earth plants too.
8	What is the latest status of Lynas?	They have already been informed about the Board's decision and we hope that they are looking at it very seriously in meeting the requirements.
9	Is there a possibility that Lynas can't operate if they can't fulfill the conditions?	Of course, anything is possible. The conditions from the Board are very strict; Lynas must convince their parent organization to accept the return of the residue. Also, Lynas must have the financial capacity to pay USD50m. If they meet all the requirements, in particular the safety requirements, then we will issue the license.
10	The 5 conditions from the Board, how many have been met so far? Is there a time period given for them to fulfill it?	There is no cut-off point. If they are in a hurry, they should be in full compliance soon. We also take note that there is an appeal going on at the

		court, and we are fully aware of the consequences of this.
11	If it is so safe, why not build it in Australia?	It has been an economic decision and the return of investment.
12	What is your comment regarding Australia not wanting to receive the waste?	Western Australia Minister said that they will not receive radioactive waste from a third country; they never said anything about Lynas's residue. In their document Lynas stated that they are able to bring down the concentration of radioactivity.
13	What is the worst case scenario?	It is a plant that works on atmosphere pressure but there are two pressurize boilers. The worst case scenario is that the boiler will explode and the steam comes out. A much worse scenario would be if the pipe that is supplying the acid leaks. The least worry should be the radioactivity release because it is natural radioactivity and if there is leakage, it will stay local because Thorium is insoluble and radioactivity can be detected easily.
14	Are the authorities trained to handle any emergency?	Malaysia's first responders are very well trained. We are also part of the HAZMART and we are as prepared as our neighbors are in all kinds of emergencies.
15	Concern about the PDF can only last for few hundred years but Thorium half-life is billion years.	When the half-life is millions of years, the radionuclide is almost stable. Radiation is emitted only when it decays down.