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PENRAPEE FOONGKLIN: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN AIR POLLUTION FROM MAE MOH POWER PLANT: A CASE STUDY OF TAMBOL SOPPAD MAE MOH DISTRICT LAMPANG PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISORS: SANCHAI SUTIPANWIHAN, M.Sc., AUEMPHORN MUTCHIMWONG, M.Sc., BUNDIT CHANNARONG, M.Eng., CHUSOM RATTANANIT, M.A. 146 P. ISBN 974–663–946-3

This study analyzes the participation and the need for participation of the public in the prevention of air pollution from Mae Moh Power Plant. Factors which affected the cooperation of people in the prevention of air pollution will also be studied to suggest how to increase participation of the people in managing this problem. Questionnaires were completed by 317 adult members of the community, and an indepth interview technique were used for 13 leaders of the community as well as some local officers. The data was processed by SPSS for window software using statistics frequency distribution, percentage, arithmetic mean, standard deviation, maximum, minimum, analysis of covariance with multiple classification analysis. Description analysis was utilized for indepth interview data and information.

The results of the study revealed the participation and the need for participation level of most people is at a moderate level. It is also found that factors affecting the participation are: sex, occupation, income, education level, available information about air pollution, the number of people in the household, the duration of residence in the village, as well as actually feeling the effects of air pollution. In addition, the factors affecting the need for participation level are: sex, occupation, education level, available information about air pollution, the number of people in the household and the actually feeling the effects of air pollution.

The suggestions from the results of this study are that the government and the public relations staff must take an important role and cooperate to solve air pollution from Mae Moh Power Plant. The important problems that must be corrected are to decrease the quantity of air pollution and decrease the effects of it. The government and public relations staff must support public participation by understanding the rights and duty of the public to save the environment. They should provide the opportunity for people to participate in solving air pollution and support the role of local organization in this effect. They must guide the community members and other Mae Moh Power Plant staff members to solve this pollution problem and improve the quality of the environment and the quality of life in the Mae Moh district.