

Thesis Title: PUBLIC'S OPINION ON SITING OF FINAL
DISPOSAL SITE FOR INDUSTRIAL HAZARDOUS
WASTES IN BANGKOK'S VICINITY

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ABSTRACT

The main aim of this research study is to investigate public opinion on siting of final disposal site for industrial hazardous wastes in Bangkok 's vicinity. 313 respondents were sampled for the research. 163 of them lived in the community which had industrial establishments within 1 km of their residential (Hereafter known as Type 1 respondents), and the remaining sample population (Type 2 respondents) lived in the community which had no industrial establishments within 1 km of their residential. Factors such as sex, age, education, occupation, personal income, number of years living in the community, incidents of sickness, residential distance away from industrial establishments, knowledge on industrial hazardous wastes, opinion on industrialization of Thailand and number of family members who were working in industrial sector were designed to seek the opinion of the respondents. It was found in the research that there was no differences in opinion on siting

of a final disposal site for industrial hazardous wastes between these 2 types of respondents. For Type 1 respondents, only personal income was found to be statistically significant (at the 0.05 level). Whereas for Type 2 respondents, education, occupation, personal income, opinion on industrialization of Thailand were reported to be statistically significant at the 0.05 level. The order of the independent variables which showed strong relationships with dependent variable were found to be as follows : occupation (mean square = 0.139) , personal income (mean square = 0.120), education (mean square = 0.056) and sex (mean square = 0.001). Occupation and personal income were also reported to be statistically significant at the 0.05 level. And the order of the covariates which showed strong relationships with dependent variable were found to be as the following: opinion on industrialization of Thailand (mean square = 0.624) , distance between resident and industrial establishments (mean square = 0.097) and knowledge of industrial hazardous wastes (mean square = 0.05). The opinion on industrialization of Thailand was reported to be significant at the 0.001 level statistically.

Open-ended questionnaires were also addressed to the respondents, some important findings are : about 63% of the respondents thought that it was a good practice to construct a final disposal site for industrial hazardous wastes in Thailand. 59% of respondents said that they would protest against a final disposal if they did not agree to the government 's decision on the matter. They listed that good planning, good O & M , good communication between government and local people, and good compensate schemes are important for them to decide on their acceptance for a final disposal site.