

Energy Ministry to order Electricity Authority of Thailand (EGAT) to utilize mixed natural rubber to be used as fuel in coal power plant, the first kind of energy utilization attempt in the world.

Mr Siri Jirapongphan, Minister of Energy, disclosed that he had instructed EGAT to conduct feasibility by grinding natural rubber into dust particle and mixed with fuel to be used in coal power plant with the aim to cut down huge volume of nationwide rubber stockpile. The method of utilizing natural rubber to be mixed with fuel is considered as technological breakthrough and also bearing in mind the concept of environmental friendly approach since nobody has ever implemented this ideal before. The Ministry of Energy, therefore, instructed EGAT to figure out cost-cutting method and new technology which is quite time-consuming but worthwhile to invest in order to ensure public confident for a sustainable use of electricity consumption.

The Minister further elaborated that natural rubber which EGAT will incinerate and be used in coal power plant does not come for free of charge but instead EGAT will purchase from government operated rubber stockpile nationwide taking into consideration that the purchased of natural rubber will not impact the cost of fuel tariff (FT) and does not add any financial burden for the general public at large.