

## **CARS, BIKES TRUCKS EDITORIAL : A roller coaster week:**

**Yamin Vong**

**NEW SUNDAY TIMES (8 SEPT 2013)**

We like to refer to 2 issues that are highlighted in the Editorial written by Yamin Vong on :

- i. A garbage truck depot off the subang Airport to Kampong Subang road. Operated by an Alam flora sub-contractor or sub-sub contractor, it's just beside the bridge spanning sungei Subang which purportedly doesn't even have a wastewater trap and oil separator; and
- ii. that real big fish is the garbage transfer station at Taman Wahyu beside the MRR2. The Editor goes on to report that the tonnes/day flow of waste water from the Taman Wahyu transfer station is undersized, under-engineered and totally inadequate of meeting the standard "B" wastewater. He is of the opinion that the Ministry of Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government should upgrade the wastewater treatment plant.

First and foremost, we like to set the record straight that is **the depot concern does not belong to Alam Flora Sdn Bhd (AFSB) sub-contractor or its sub-sub contractor**. We like to enlighten the reader that Alam Flora is the concessionaire that is given the concession by the Government to provide the collection services of household solid waste in Kuala Lumpur and Pahang and **NOT** in

Selangor. In this regard, under the privatisation exercise, AFSB is required to have depots which must adhere to all the law and regulation pertaining to environmental protection and safeguard the health of the people. Failing which, they are subjected to heavy penalties under the Concession Agreement.

On the **issue of the transfer station**, while the writer is correct in reporting that the existing the wastewater treatment plant is undersized and inadequate of meeting the standard “B” effluent discharge standard, he **however does not make a thorough investigation before writing the article**. The Ministry through the Department of National Solid Waste Management has identified the problem since 2010 and have taken remedial action. We have constructed a new leachate treatment plant (LTP) costing RM 5 million, capable of meeting the effluent discharge standard under the latest regulation (Environmental Quality (Control of Pollution From Solid Waste Transfer Station and Landfill) Regulations 2009). The LTP has passed the testing and the commissioning on 7 November 2012 and DBKL has appointed an operator to run the LTP. Thus, we hope that the effluent being discharge untreated and not complying to the standard is no longer an issue.

We hope the clarification will clear the air on both issues that were highlighted in the article.

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09 September 2013

