

Headline	GDI on lookout for investors to commercialise new biofuel	Language	English
Date	03 Jun 2010	Page No	2
MediaTitle	New Sabah Times English (KK)	Article Size	165 cm²
Section	Business	Color	Black/white
Journalist	N/A	ADValue	171
Frequency	Daily	PRValue	514
Circ / Read	23,655 /		



CDI on lookout for investors to commercialise new biofuel

KUALA LUMPUR: Che Dzayauddin Ishak Sdn Bhd (CDI) is on the lookout for investors to commercialise Torrefied Acasia Wood Pellets (TRAW), a highly efficient biofuel.

"CDI is the promoting board for TRAW now and we are seeking investors," said its Chairman, Tan Sri Dr Abdul Hamid Pawan Teh.

The Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) yesterday signed a technology licensing agreement with CDI, which accords exclusive rights to the company to commercialise its TRAW.

CDI is an engineering and contracting company that provides comprehensive solutions on renewable energy.

FRIM sold the rights to CDI under a 10-year licensing agreement for RM2.5 million.

Abdul Hamid said the company is currently in talks with a few potential investors to bring the new green fuel product into the market.

He however, declined to

disclose the investors.

TRAW is the result of FRIM's research and development efforts to look for more value-added uses for the fast growing Acacias, currently utilised for making woodchips only.

"Once investors are identified for the required capital, to start the project, CDI will build a large-scale manufacturing plant which will take a year to complete.

"We have not determined how many plants will be built or identified the location yet," he said after the signing ceremony.

CDI has estimated about RM10 million per plant and it is expected to produce about 100,000 tonnes of TRAW annually.

Speaking on the target

markets for the new biofuel, Abdul Hamid said the demand is mostly overseas at present.

"As such, we plan to penetrate the European market first," he added.

He also said CDI will be promoting and commercialising TRAW using a high technology system called, Airless Technology, from the United Kingdom to produce it more efficiently.

The TRAW is expected to be in the market in two years, Abdul Hamid explained.

Meanwhile, FRIM's Director-General Datuk Dr Abdul Latif Mohmod said the basic idea behind this venture, is to take advantage of the naturally occurring fuel as an energy source.- Bernama



Dr Abdul Hamid