

BANPU Board approves divestment of Tri Energy Power

31 July 2003, Board of Directors of Banpu Public Company Limited (SET symbol: BANPU) approved the sale of 37.5 per cent share of Tri Energy Company Limited (TECO), to Ratchaburi Electricity Generating Holding Public Company Limited (SET symbol: RATCH). The share price totaling Baht 2,100 Million will be paid in cash. However, the success of the transaction is still subject to uncertainty of several key conditions.

BANPU revealed that the company's Board of Directors has approved the sale of the company's investment in Tri Energy Company Limited (TECO), by selling all the ordinary shares that the Company owns in Banpu Gas Power Limited (Banpu Gas) and transferring the loans that the Company has given to Banpu Gas, to RATCH. The total share price is Baht 2,100 Million payable in cash. Banpu Gas currently holds 12,839,250 shares in TECO, equivalent to 37.5 per cent of the total issued shares in TECO.

The transaction, however, is still subject to uncertainty depending on several conditions, including the required consents from the lenders and other main shareholders of TECO, the negotiation and conclusion between the RATCH and the other main shareholders in TECO in relation to the expansion of the power plant in Ratchaburi Province, and the final negotiation and execution of the share sale and purchase agreement and other related documents with RATCH.

If the final negotiation could be achieved successfully, Banpu expects the sale and the payment be completed within October 2003.

BANPU looks forward to the success of the transaction with RATCH and expects this strategic alliance in the power generation and distribution business would maximize the mutual benefits for both parties in the future.

Facts:

Banpu Gas power Company Limited, a subsidiary of Banpu Group, is the investment firm in power generation and distribution that currently operates 700 megawatt Tri Energy Power Plant located in Ratchaburi province. Additionally, Banpu Group is holding a stake of 14.99 per cent of RATCH's total ordinary shares.

Ratchburi Electricity Generating Holding Public Company Limited is the leading investment firm in power generation and distribution in Thailand. It currently has investment in two subsidiaries, namely Ratchaburi Electricity Generating Company Limited, which operates 3,645 megawatt Ratchaburi Power Plant, and Ratchburi Energy Company Limited, an investment in small power generation project.

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