



press release

29 January 2003

BANPU launches THB 3,000 Million Debentures

Successful placement as investors confident in BANPU's potentiality and credibility

Banpu Public Company Limited (BANPU) and Standard Chartered Bank announce today that the issuance of Banpu's THB 3,000 million amortizing debentures have been successfully closed with overwhelming response from the investors. The 5-year maturity debentures were 4.3 times oversubscribed with the fixed coupon rate of 2.95%. Standard Chartered Bank Thailand was appointed as the lead arranger, and SG Asia Credit Securities Company Limited and United Security Public Company Limited as the co-lead arrangers.

Mr. Arthid Nanthawithaya, Executive Vice President and Head of Debt Capital Markets and Asian Fixed Income, Standard Chartered Bank, Bangkok branch, as a lead arranger said that "Banpu unsubordinated, unsecured and amortizing debentures were 4.3 times overbooked by institutional investors with the coupon rate of 2.95%. The overwhelming success of this fund raising clearly demonstrates investors confidence in Banpu's credit, management team and development strategy".

"Another significant reason of the successful placement was that TRIS Rating Company Limited (TRIS) upgraded the company and its debentures to "A" from "A-" ratings. The ratings reflect the company's capable and long experienced management team, its leading position in Thailand's coal market, its continuous progress in integration of recently acquired subsidiaries in the mining business in Indonesia, and the diversification into the power business. The ratings also take into consideration Banpu's policy to buy insurance to cover its investments in Indonesia," noted Mr.Arthid.

Chief Executive Officer of Banpu Public Company Limited, Mr. Chanin Vongkusolkrit, stated that “The proceeds of the transaction will be used in part to refinance to reduce interest payment as well as for general working capital in coal and power businesses in both Thailand and Indonesia. The debentures will help Banpu to meet its policy in generating the ultimate returns to the shareholders”.

BANPU, a leading regional coal-based energy group, is ranked the 4th largest of coal-mining producers in Indonesia and the 8th in Seaborne market players. Banpu’s Coal Reserves and Resources are reported at 319 million tons at the end of 2002. Currently in coal business, the company has total production capacity of 15 million tons per annum. In the power business, its equity capacity of projects and operations are currently reported at 1,520 megawatt.

Summary of Offering

Issuer:	Banpu Public Company Limited
Type:	Unsubordinated, Unsecured and Amortizing Debentures
Issue Size:	THB 3,000 Million
Maturity:	5 Years
Issue Date:	3 February 2003
Due Date:	3 February 2008
Offering Price:	1,000 Baht (at par)
Coupon Rate:	2.95% with semi-annual payment
Target Issuance:	Private placement to institutional investors
Amortizing Features:	4 equally amortized commencing Year 4
Credit Rating:	“A” from TRIS
Regulatory Control:	Thai law

For more information, please contact

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