

Select panel to visit rare earth project site
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THE Parliamentary Select Committee on Lynas will visit the rare earth project site in Gebeng, Pahang, on May 10.

Datuk Abdul Rahman Dahlan (BN-Kota Belud), a PSC member, said the visit was necessary for it to submit a report to Parliament on June 19.

The committee had its first meeting, chaired by Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin, at Parliament yesterday. The committee also agreed to hold a two-day public hearing in Kuantan from May 10 and in Kuala Lumpur on May 21.

"We hope everything will run smoothly so that the matter can be tabled for debate," he told reporters at the Parliament lobby yesterday.

The PSC on Lynas is divided into several sub-committees that will be assigned to look at different aspects in its investigation.

Rahman said he would meet the stakeholders, including those who were against the rare earth project.

Earlier, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak had assured that the project would be scrapped if there was scientific evidence and supporting claims that the rare earth would have detrimental effects on health and the environment.

On Tuesday, Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Dr Maximus Ongkili heard the appeal by three individuals against the Atomic Energy Licensing Board's decision on Jan 30 to award a temporary operating licence for the plant.

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