

Education Minister, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, officially launched the National Weather Study Project on 31 March 2005 at Senoko Power Station.

The ceremony was attended by the French Ambassador, government /regulatory dignitaries, school principals, teachers and students, our business partners and staff.

What is the National Weather Study Project?

- The answer lies in the commonality of the following: breakup of the polar ice sheet, receding snowline, glacier retreat, rising seawater level, extreme droughts, major floods, forest fires, haze blankets, increasing respiratory problems, etc.
- These are all the effects of climate change and global warming and they have become more intense. 2003 and 2004 were the hottest years for planet Earth. In Singapore, the 10 hottest years recorded are from the 1990s. 9 February 2005 was the hottest Chinese New Year day in 15 years. There were over 500 bushfires in January and February 2005 alone. This writer was forced to evacuate from his home under police orders on 16 February when a nearby bushfire threatened rows of houses in the quiet Sembawang Road neighbourhood.
- Climatic changes in any part of the world can cause chain reactions that affect Singapore's trade and industry because the world's economies are tightly interrelated. Hence world leaders consider global warming and climate changes to be one of the most pressing problems affecting the world in the medium to long term.

Senoko Power is proud to be a market leader in green initiatives – we are the first to bring in natural gas, the first to introduce combined cycle technology and repowering concept, the first to have a reliable dual gas supply and the first genco to be certified ISO 14001. We have built an internal capacity to ensure we will always be a lean, clean and green corporate citizen. Going beyond, we want to increase the awareness of our younger population, especially the students in schools, about climate change, global warming and their inter-relationship with the environment.

The Company introduced a nation-wide community-based project, that is endorsed by the National Environment Agency (NEA) and the Ministry of Education (MOE). Under the project, the Company pledged \$1 million to sponsor mini weather stations in all participating schools. With the official launch, the next phase is to engage MOE and the schools in the project. Prof Leo Tan, Director of NIE and Chairman of NParks, and Prof Lim Hock, Director of Temasek Laboratory and Asst Director of Research from NUS, are the co-chairmen of the Advisory Committee, which includes representatives from NUS, NTU, SMU, MOE, NEA, and Senoko Power. The Advisory Committee will be supported by a Working Committee of personnel from Senoko Power, MOE and NEA.

The ceremony also marked the achievement of three other major environmental milestones:

- Official completion of \$600million Stage I repowering project, in which the ageing 3x120MW oil-fired steam plants were transformed into high-efficiency and environmentally-friendly 3x360MW combined cycle plants,
- Official handing over of Senoko 2,400 m<sup>3</sup>/day Desalination Plant, the first operational plant to utilise ultra-filtration membrane pre-treatment technology, and prize presentation to the winning schools and students of the Festive Card Design Competition.

During the tour of the Desalination Plant, the Minister was very impressed with the technology deployed. He suggested that students tour the plant to see how seawater is converted to the high-purity water. They will be able to appreciate the process involved in the material transformation and the importance of water conservation then.

Mr Roy Adair, President and CEO of Senoko Power “We are delighted to have completed the Stage I Repowering Project and the Desalination Plant Project on schedule. The successful completion of both projects underpins Senoko’s commitment to provide a safe, reliable and competitively-priced electricity supply to our discerning customers while materially benefiting the environment. At the same time, we wish to be the catalyst among the industry players that really care for the community and the environment, which we have put among the top management’s agendas. These initiatives enable Senoko Power to provide to its customers the power to make a difference.”