

READINGS IN MALAYSIAN URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

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CHAPTER 10

HEALTH IMPACT DUE TO PARTICULATES MATTER EMISSION FROM CONSTRUCTION SITE

Shamzani Affendy Mohd Din, Nik Nurul-Hidayah Binti Nik Yahya,

INTRODUCTION

The usage of the terms ‘global warming’, ‘climate change’ and ‘greenhouse gas emission’ that exist since late 18th century (US EPA, 2011) had been widely spread to the world as it had been critically discussed in the First World Climate Conference in 1979 (DOE, 2007). This explosion occurred parallel to the increase development of the earth. Global warming scientifically defined as the global mean surface temperatures that change the patterns of global climate. Through this sub-chapter, an explanation on climate change and air pollution will be reviewed.

The terms global warming found the terms climate change that translated by US EPA (2011), as any significant change in measures of climate that last for an extended period. It is to be highlighted here that this term covers broader scope of temperature increment than global warming. Furthermore, it had been identified that global warming shall occur through natural resources such as volcanic explosion, earth orbit changes and sun’s energy release; and human activities for instance the industrial revolution.

Deforestation, reforestation, urbanization and burning fossil fuel also may contribute to the climate change (US EPA, 2011). Global warming causes increased surface air temperature, subsurface ocean temperature, average global sea levels, and change the physical and biological system (DOE, 2007). The stated above human activities causes the emissions of the greenhouse gases act as the shield for heat to escape from the earth, thus causes increase in temperature.

Furthermore, the above stated human activities also cause the existence of air pollution on earth since 16 AD (Hunt, 2011). However, the deterioration of air quality in Malaysia is acknowledged in early 1970 (Awang *et. al.*, 2000). Malaysian is currently facing human being adverse health and poor visibility impact due to the air pollution and specifically haze occurs in the year 1982, 1988, 1991, 1994, 1997 and 2004 (Talib *et. al.*, 2006).