

National Assembly Senior delegation visits potassium plant.

(KPL) The President of the National Assembly Thongsing Thammavong and his delegates last Tuesday visited the China-invested Potassium Production Plant in Khammouane province. On the visit to the Plant in Dongtay village, Thakhek district, Khammouane province, Mr Thongsing and his delegates were accompanied by Khammouane Governor Khambay Damlath and provincial high-ranking officials. He was briefed on the general conditions of the plant, future directions and plan of the Potassium Production Plant. The exploitation of potassium in this central province, was conducted by the Chasi-Lao Development Ltd, in 2007 with a joint investment of US\$54 million between local business and Chinese businesspeople. 90 per cent of the share is held by the Sinoagri Mining Investment Co Ltd and the rest by a Lao shareholder, Mr Vilum Laoly. The survey area covers 236 square kilometres in Thakhek and Nongbok districts while the exploitation area covers 35 square kilometres and its plant is located on 80 hectares.

This month, the plant will try to run the machine for 15 days. The potassium will be exported to Thailand and Vietnam. The plant has now employed 100 per cent of Chinese workers. After completing the machine installation, the plant will employ Lao workers for about 20-30 per cent. In the first five years, the plant projects to produce 100,000 tonnes per year and then the plant plans to increase its annual production capacity to one million tonnes.