

'Bauxite permit application will be thoroughly screened'

LIPIS: Careful screening of bauxite mining permit applications will be conducted to prevent incidents of environmental pollution from recurring in the state, said Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Wan Rosdy Wan Ismail.

He said the stringent measure was important to ensure that those granted permits for bauxite mining operations and export licences meet the new standard operating procedure (SOP) criteria.

"We have agreed to use the new

SOP set by the Water, Land and Natural Resources Ministry and to ensure its effectiveness. Careful screening of the applications will be undertaken before the state government can issue the permit and mining activities can begin," he said

after launching the Tanjung Gahai Makmur Housing Project yesterday.

Wan Rosdy also said stern action, including the revocation of the permits, would be taken against the operators who failed to follow the SOP. — Bernama