A REVIEW ON THE LAW FOR VEHICLE EMISSION IN MALAYSIA: THE POSITION IN MALAYSIA, THE UNITED STATES,

AND JAPAN

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Abstract

This research examines the existing laws in Malaysia on vehicle emission and to compare it with the laws in the United State and Japan. The development of the laws has started as early as 1970s in the United States with the Clean Air Act and followed closely by Japan and Malaysia in 1974 with the Environmental Quality Act 1974. Japan, however criminalizes this offence of air pollution and introduces "pollution diet" to control it. When comparing these laws, it showed that the United States has the most development and was referred by several countries, including Malaysia. International agreements and haze tracking measurements were also made but even so, there are various regulations passed in different states in the United States despite having the Clean Air Act and it varies from state to state. Japan, despite having the harshest approach, it showed that there is a significant reduction of air pollution more than 80% in a decade. Malaysia on the other hand, has its own regulations, and several efforts were made by the government to reduce emission where it must not be more than 50 HSU and new technologies were used by PUSPAKOM to control diesel exhaust emission by having particulate filters, exhaust gas recirculation and selective catalytic reduction. Some suggestions had been included in this study such as to review the provisions on vehicles in Malaysia to use a 3-way catalytic converter to reduce toxicity of emissions and to upgrade diesel fuel with less sulphur as it can reduce emission by 90%.

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