CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND OF STUDY

Malaysia is faced with daunting challenges related to solid waste management. Due to an increase in population, economic growth, inadequate enforcement of waste legislation, infrastructure, and public attitude among others, solid waste management is considered a crucial issue in Malaysia, particularly in urban settings (Dawda Badgie, Mohd Armi Abu Samah, Latifah Abd Manaf, Azizi B. Muda, 2012). Solid waste disposal and wrong management is both an urban and rural problem. Every person is a potential generator of waste and thus a contributor to this problem. To generate waste is one thing, the type of waste generated is another and yet also the way the generated waste is managed or disposed of is quite a different issue. It has more often than not turned out that the rate at which solid waste is generated is far higher than the capacity to responsibly manage this waste. Waste is generated by and from different sectors which are domestic, commercial, industry and others and in many instances, the waste management responsibility has been left to the government or administrative authorities. There is growing consensus that the immediate stakeholders in the issue of solid waste (the generators of waste), in this case the residents need to join hands with the authorities in dealing with this problem that has far-reaching environmental and human health effects.

Kuala Nerus is one of the district in Terengganu that rank high in urbanization and urban population nowadays. As Kuala Nerus’s urban areas increase in number and expand in geographical and population size, solid waste is swiftly emerging as a significant issue in environmental management.
Particularly, waste volumes have increased in urban area due to the growing urban population, concentration of industries, consumption of residents, and inadequate finance and facilities to manage waste and disposal. This district of affairs has led to the volume of solid waste generated to go beyond what the available facilities can accommodate.

One of the major factors that have contributed to poor waste collection and management in Kuala Nerus is limited community participation in solid waste management. The limited participation has budded from co-ordination and collaboration problems that exist among the three stakeholders in solid waste management are the communities, the public (government) and the private sectors (World Bank. 2012). This study seeks to explore public participation in solid waste management in Kuala Nerus. The current level of participation as well as whether and what, can be done to improve public participation in solid waste management are concerns addressed by this study.

Figure 1.1 : Study area of the research
1.2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

Solid waste management may be not the major issue in the residential nowadays. But with the new development of town and country, it probably will increase time to time and it is also effect directly into environmental issues. Moving from straight disposal to waste management can reduce the risk of environmental issues.

Reduce, reuse and recycle (3R) solid waste may save money, improve the relationship between the public in the residential, also improve the relationship of the authority with the public instead of keep the beautiful environment from any pollution like air pollution, water pollution, odor pollution and so on (Hester, R.E. & Harrison, R.E. 2002). Beside that, it also can improve the awareness about the importance of solid waste management among the public. The challenges of involving the public in solid management plan in Kuala Nerus Town Council (KNTC) also will be considered during this research in order to improve the public participation in solid waste management in Kuala Nerus Town Council (Seow Ta Wee, Indera Syahrul Mat Radzuan & Jamaluddin Md Jahi. 2008).

1.2 OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

The objectives of the research are to:

1) To estimate the type and amount of solid waste generation in Kuala Nerus.

2) To make recommendations or suggestions for future action to establish environmentally sound management of solid waste.