

Businessmen arrested over toxic waste

The Jakarta Police have arrested five owners of companies that allegedly dumped hazardous waste in Marunda, Cilincing, North Jakarta.

City Police chief spokesman Sr. Comr. Rikwanto said the companies produced the waste by processing used oil from ship engines and resold it as fuel. The fuel was stored in several containers on a 1-hectare site in Marunda.

“The owners of the land changed from time to time. It used to be a toxic waste dump, and then it became a holding site for containers. Now, it’s a place for storing used oil. They [the companies] have been operating for eight to 12 months,” he said as quoted by kompas.com.

The police confiscated three tanks with the capacity to hold 16,000 liters, 11 containers with a capacity of 48,000 liters, four pumps, one truck, 25 used oil drums and around 190,000 liters of toxic waste.

Each of the companies, Rikwanto said, made around Rp 50 million (US\$4,281.19) per month, amounting to combined total monthly earnings of around Rp 300 million.