## Acknowledgements

I would like express my gratitude and appreciation to my supervisor, Emeritus

Professor Don McNeil, for his helpful guidance, support and invaluable assistance
throughout the completion of the thesis. Thanks also to my co-supervisors, Assistance
Professor Chamnein Choonpradub and Assistance Professor Dr Wanchamai

Karntanut, for their encouragement and suggestions.

I am also thanks to Greig Rundle for editing my English and Assistance Professor Wutthipong Seangmanee, Assistance Professor Dr. Apiradee Lim, for their helpful advice.

I would like to acknowledge Graduate School, Prince of Songkla University and Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand for funding this study.

Finally, I would like to thank my family and friends for their encouragement throughout my study.

Chokchai Lueangthuwapranit