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PRESS RELEASE:

*by Dato' Ir. Jaseni Maidinsa,
Chief Executive Officer,
PBA Holdings Bhd (PBAHB) and
Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP)*

Leaking 900mm Water Pipeline at Pantai Jerejak Fixed

PENANG, Tuesday (20/9/2016): Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP) had to shut down a major 900mm water pipeline to facilitate emergency repair works.

This pipeline is one of three that deliver water from Bukit Dumbar to the southern areas of Penang Island. As such, the shutdown affected supply to these areas.

At about 9.00am yesterday, PBAPP detected a leak on this key pipeline at a difficult location. It was at a river crossing at Medan Pantai Jerejak, near Sungai Dua Besar.

After isolating the pipeline, PBAPP personnel and contractors had to build a coffer dam quickly to isolate the repair site. We were ready to proceed with the repairs at 9.45pm last night but due to inclement weather, high river waters and high tides we were delayed by 10 hours.

Draining the worksite to gain access to the leaking section of the pipeline was an overnight challenge.

When the site was finally drained at 7.45am today, an emergency crew that had been on stand-by all night commenced welding works to re-seal the leaking section of the pipeline.

On-site work is being finalised as we speak. Water supply to all areas should resume from 2.00pm today.

Please note that this is an unscheduled water supply interruption caused by a mishap at a challenging location. Nevertheless, PBAPP took remedial action as quickly as possible, even though it was raining on-site.

During the shutdown period, PBAPP optimised the pumping of water from Bukit Dumbar via the two other key pipelines to all the southern areas of the island, including the Bayan Lepas Free Trade Zone and the Penang International Airport.

We also deployed water tankers to provide water to residents living on higher ground overnight.

We regret any inconvenience caused by this mishap.

Thank You.

*Dato' Ir. Jaseni Maidinsa,
Chief Executive Officer,
PBA Holdings Bhd (PBAHB) and
Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP)*

Contact : Puan Syarifah Nasywa bt Syed Feisal Barakbah
Corporate Communications Unit
Tel : 04-200 6607
Email : syarifah@pba.com.my