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若慕达河被堵塞 檳将起诉吉打



（檳城18日讯）檳州供水机构首席执行官拿督杰瑟尼说，慕达河是一条大河。堵塞或筑坝将导致洪水泛滥，这不仅会损害土地和财产，还会给包括吉打的稻农在内的人民造成不必要的痛苦。

他今日发文告说，若慕达河被堵塞或筑坝，还将迫使檳城和檳州供水机构对吉打的非法行为提起诉讼。

他也指出，马来西亚的供水运营商会支付州政府“原水取水费”，而檳州供水机构正支付此费用给檳州政府。

“在大马，没有任何供水运营商给两个州政府支付从一条河中提取原水的费用的先例可循。”

他说，如果吉打认真考虑将乌鲁慕达（Ulu Muda）保留为区域集水区，它应该向中央政府而不是檳城寻求合理的赔偿。

他指出，寻求中央赔偿的主要理由是公正而简单的，即乌鲁慕达是北部经济走廊特区（NCER）三个州属，即玻璃市、吉打和檳城的集水区。

他说，檳城并不是唯一提取源自乌鲁慕达的慕达河原水的州属。住在檳城的177万人并不是源自乌鲁慕达的原水的唯一受益者。共有420万人，包括住在玻璃市和吉打的人民，都受益于乌鲁慕达。

他指出，玻璃市、吉打和檳城在2019年（一年）为全国国内生产总值（GDP）贡献了约1478亿令吉。三州能够每年持续维持稳健的国内生产总值贡献，取决于三州的良好供水服务。

他说，中央政府对北部经济走廊特区而设的愿景是基于利用玻璃市、吉打、檳城和霹靂的综合优势来发展“世界级的经济区和技術枢纽”。若无法保障北部经济走廊特区所有州属现在和未来的供水安全，就无法实现北部经济走廊特区的愿景。

他也说，檳州供水机构从檳城境内的拉哈甸（Lahar Tiang）取水口抽取来自慕达河的原水，该取水口位于吉打的13个濾水厂和4个灌溉取水口的下游。



他强调，为了吉打和玻璃市的利益，槟州供水机构的原水取水作业不会损害上游的供水和灌溉取水。同时，槟州供水机构的原水取水作业也不会为吉打招致任何费用。

“如果槟州供水机构不从拉哈甸提取慕达河的原水，原水也将自然流入马六甲海峡。”

另外，他说，槟州政府和槟州供水机构已公开表示支持吉打州寻求中央赔偿，以保护乌鲁慕达作为北部经济走廊特区集水区。

“但是，我们仅支持吉打根据以下保护条款和条件提出的索赔要求，即吉打必须根据《1984年国家森林法》，将大乌鲁慕达综合森林（乌鲁慕达）的16万3000公顷雨林宪报为永久森林保护区并归类为集水林”。

他说，吉打也必须完全禁止乌鲁慕达的所有伐木活动。另外，吉打绝不能批准乌鲁慕达的采矿许可或允许进行任何形式的采矿和相关活动，包括稀土元素（REE）开采。

“吉打仅可允许在乌鲁慕达进行生态友好型的休闲和旅游活动。”

他说，如果吉打能够接受这些条款和条件，则吉打州政府可获得槟州政府和槟州供水机构的全力支持，为北部经济走廊特区及其人民的利益进行谈判，以获得保护乌鲁慕达的中央赔偿。

If the Muda River is blocked, Penang will sue Kedah.

Penang, 18 - CEO of PBAPP Dato' Jaseni said that the Muda River is a big river. Blocking or damming will lead to flooding, which will not only damage land and property, but also cause unnecessary suffering to people, including the rice farmers in Kedah.

He announced today that if the Muda River is blocked or dammed, Penang and PBAPP will also be forced to file a lawsuit against Kedah's illegal acts.

He also pointed out that Malaysia's water supply operators pay the state government "raw water intake fee", and PBAPP is paying this fee to the Penang government.

"In Malaysia, there is no precedent for a water operator to pay two state governments to extract raw water from a river."

If Kedah seriously considers retaining Ulu Muda as a regional catchment, it should seek reasonable compensation from the federal government, not Penang, he said.

He pointed out that the main reason for seeking compensation from the federal government was just and simple, that is, Ulu Muda is a catchment area of the three states of the Northern Corridor Economic Region (NCER), namely Perlis, Kedah and Penang.

Penang is not the only state to extract raw water from the Muda River in Ulu Muda, he said. The 1.77 million people living in Penang are not the only beneficiaries of raw water from Ulu Muda. A total of 4.2 million people, including people living in Perlis and Kedah, have benefited from Ulu Muda.

He pointed out that Perlis, Kedah and Penang contributed about RM147.8 billion to the national gross domestic product (GDP) in 2019 (one year). The sustained steady GDP contribution of the three states depends on their good water supply services.

He said that the federal government's vision for the NCER is based on the development of "world-class economic zones and technological hubs", by taking advantage of the comprehensive advantages of Perlis, Kedah, Penang and Perak. If the present and future water supply security of all States in the NCER cannot be guaranteed, the vision of the NCER cannot be realised.

He also said that the PBAPP draws raw water from the Muda River at the Lahar Tiang Intake in Penang, which is downstream of 13 water treatment plants and 4 irrigation water intakes in Kedah.

PBAPP's raw water abstraction operations do not compromise water supply and irrigation abstractions upstream. At the same time, the raw water intake operation of PBAPP does not incur any cost for Kedah.

"If PBAPP does not extract raw water from the Muda River from Lahar Tiang, the raw water will naturally flow into the Strait of Malacca."

In addition, he said that the Penang government and PPAPP have publicly expressed their support for the Kedah to seek federal compensation to protect Ulu Muda as the catchment area of the NCER.

"However, we only support Kedah's claim under the terms and conditions that Kedah must gazette and classify 163,000 hectares of rainforest in the greater Ulu Muda integrated forest (Ulu Muda) as permanent reserve forests, in accordance with the National Forest Act 1984."

He said Kedah must also completely ban all logging activities in Ulu Muda. In addition, Kedah must not approve mining license for Ulu Muda or allow any form of mining and related activities, including rare earth element (REE) mining.

"Only eco-friendly leisure and tourism activities are allowed in Ulu Muda." He said that if the terms and conditions can be accepted by Kedah, the government of Kedah can obtain the full support of the Penang state government and PBAPP to negotiate federal compensation for the interests of the NCER and its people.