

PENANG

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PENANG is implementing four water supply projects this year as interim solutions to address water supply issues in south Seberang Prai (SPS).

Penang Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow said a RM24.6mil SPS 2023 Response Plan by Penang Water Supply Corporation (PBAPP) would benefit more than 14,000 water consumers in SPS, especially those living at end-of-line areas.

One of the four projects under the plan is a 10 million litre per day (MLD) dissolved air flotation plant in Bukit Panchor.

The RM18.6mil plant is expected to be completed in August.

Chow said another project was a 2.4 MLD compact water treatment plant (WTP) in Sungai Kerian costing RM4mil, which would be completed in January next year.

He said new suction tanks at Taman Widuri and Taman Wellesley pumping stations, costing RM1.2mil, would be completed in October this year.

"Another short-term solution is installing two portable water treatment plants at Taman Sungai Duri Indah, which have a total capacity of 0.25 MLD.

"The RM800,000 solution will be completed this month," he said during a press conference at his office in Komtar.

Chow, who is also PBAPP chairman, said the water authority also planned to build a RM171mil WTP in Sungai Kerian to provide 114 MLD.

"The project investment includes land acquisition and

Temporary solutions to water supply issues

More than 14,000 consumers to benefit from four new projects



Chow and PBAPP chief operating officer Pathmanathan Krishnan Kutty Raman Nair showing the Sungai Kerian project under SPS 2023 Response Plan. — ZHAFARAN NASIB/The Star

ancillary engineering works.

"This is to specifically address high water demand there until 2030.

"The targeted completion of the Sungai Kerian WTP (Phase 1) is 2027," he added.

In a related development, Chow said the state would follow up with Perak on the Sungai Perak Raw Water Transfer Scheme (SPRWTS).

He said Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Saarani Mohamad's

willingness to hold talks on the issue was welcomed.

"Although there are state elections, there is no need to stop early discussions and when the state government is formed, there can be more meetings.

"Although there are state elections, there is no need to stop discussions on the Sungai Perak Raw Water Transfer Scheme."

Chow Kon Yeow

"They have not officially responded to us but based on news reports, we are happy that Perak want to hold discussions on the matter," said Chow.

Saarani was earlier quoted as saying that Perak was prepared to sell treated water to Penang, depending on whether there was enough for its own people.

He said the Penang government had written to him two months ago, suggesting that it was prepared to discuss buying treated water from Perak Water Board (LAP).