

21-3-2025

## HIGHWAY AUTHORITY APPROVES PENANG'S FOURTH WATER CONTINGENCY PLAN PROJECT



GEORGE TOWN: The Malaysian Highway Authority (MHA) has given the Penang Water Supply Corporation (PBAPP) the green light to proceed with its fourth Water Contingency Plan 2030 (WCP 2030) project for Penang.

This large 1.8m pipeline will connect a new WTP outlet point in Sungai Dua to a new inlet point of the third Penang Twin Submarine Pipelines (3rd PTSP) in Butterworth.

According to PBAPP chief executive officer Datuk K. Pathmanathan, it is an important component of the WCP 2030 that will allow PBAPP to pump more treated water from Penang's largest and most important WTP to the island in the future.

He said on Penang island, PBAPP was planning to lay a new 3.9km x 1.8m pipeline (the 3rd WCP 2030 project) to channel the treated water from Sungai Dua to the Bukit Dumbar Reservoir and Pumping Station Complex.

From Bukit Dumbar, the treated water will be re-pumped primarily to the south-western district (DBD) of the island.

"As such, the primary beneficiaries of this project are 165,054 water consumers in the northeast and southwest districts, including 140,669 domestic consumers and all the multinational corporations in Bayan Lepas," he said today.

Last year, PBAPP pumped an average of 366 million litres per day (MLD) of treated water from the Sungai Dua WTP to Penang island, including the 33 MLD needed to sustain its Air Itam Dam Action Plan 2024 (AIDAP 2024).

Pathmanathan said the projected length of the Sungai Dua WTP-Butterworth pipeline is 13.0km, making it one of the longest major water pipelines to be laid in Penang since PBAPP was corporatised 26 years ago, in 1999.

He said due to safety, engineering integrity and cost considerations, PBAPP must lay the pipeline underground, across or along many parcels of land in SPU, including highway reserve land under the jurisdiction of MHA, as related to the Butterworth Outer Ring

Road (BORR) and the North-South Expressway (NSE).

Pathmanathan said a PBAPP delegation met with Datuk Ir Sazali Harun, the director-general of MHA, in Bangi, Selangor last Wednesday.

During that meeting, Sazali agreed in principle with PBAPP's plan to lay the pipeline across or along MHA land, provided the waterworks do not create or cause major issues at the BORR and/or the NSE.

"PBAPP appreciates LLM's support for a critical water works project that will support water supply sufficiency throughout the state until 2030," he added.

Work on the 13.0km x 1.8m Sungai Dua to Butterworth Pipeline project is scheduled to commence in 2026.

With the support of the Penang government, PBAPP is seeking to fast-track other approvals from authorities such as the Department of Irrigation and Drainage (DID), Integrated Agricultural Development Area (IADA) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, the Public Works Department (PWD) and the Seberang Prai City Council (MBSP).