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## Over 341,000 people to face 60-hour water supply disruption in Penang



GEORGE TOWN: Some 341,708 water consumers will be affected by a scheduled water supply interruption (SWSI) lasting up to 60 hours, from April 25 to April 28.

During this period, the Penang Water Supply Corporation (PBAPP) will carry out 23 waterworks projects across nine installations simultaneously, at a cost of RM25 million.

The main priority of the SWSI is the final connection works for the new RM8.7 million Sungai Prai River-Crossing Pipeline (SP-RCP) section in Seberang Prai Tengah (SPT).

PBAPP chief executive officer Datuk K. Pathmanathan gave his assurance that 95 per cent of affected consumers would have their water supply restored between 24 and 60 hours, with the remainder expected to wait only a few hours more.

The total duration of the SWSI is 60 hours or 2.5 days, from Friday, April 25 to Monday April 28, with physical works taking 18 hours to complete.

"However, depending on location, the actual duration of the SWSI will affect water consumers to varying degrees.

"This SWSI has been scheduled over a weekend to reduce its impact on weekday socioeconomic activities in Penang," he told a joint press conference with Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow.

Last month, PBAPP announced a major water supply disruption at the end of April.

Pathmanathan said the duration of the SWSI was largely determined by the temporary partial shutdown of the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant (WTP).

He said it would take a longer period to fully reinstate optimal water treatment and pumping operations at the plant following a partial shutdown.

"In general, consumers in areas which are in closer proximity to the Sungai Dua WTP and major pipelines will experience a shorter SWSI than areas that are further away.

"Water supply to all key industrial areas (including the Bayan Lepas, Prai, Bukit Minyak and Batu Kawan areas and the Penang International Airport should be recovered in 24 or 48 hours.

"PBAPP plans to achieve full (100 per cent) water supply recovery in 60 hours," he added.

Pathmanathan said PBAPP needed to act now to implement urgent waterworks that would improve water supply services for the benefit of the people and businesses in Penang.

Meanwhile, Chow acknowledged that there would inevitably be some inconvenience but stressed that the urgent waterworks needed to be carried out.

He said PBAPP would engage with stakeholders to minimise the disruption.

For the 12 hospitals and 20 dialysis centres, he said PBAPP would ensure an adequate water supply at these facilities.

"The impact of these projects will benefit 465,000 water user accounts in the state, ensuring increased supply, improved water pressure, a more stable supply at all times, and faster recovery in the event of future disruptions.

"With this early notification, the public is urged to cooperate fully by storing sufficient water for 24, 48, or 60 hours, depending on their location," he said.

<https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2025/03/1194052/over-341000-people-face-60-hour-water-supply-disruption-penang>