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PBAPP To Boost SPS Water Supply With New 80 MLD Treatment Plant By 2027



GEORGE TOWN, July 4 (Bernama) -- Penang Water Supply Corporation (PBAPP) will begin operating a new 80 million litres-per-day (MLD) water treatment plant (LRA) in Seberang Perai Selatan (SPS) in 2027 to boost treated water supply in the district amid rising future demand.

Its chief executive officer Datuk K. Pathmanathan said the plant, developed under a Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) model, will use raw water from Sungai Kerian, with further details to be announced later.

He said the project is a medium-term measure to ensure sufficient supply in SPS, driven by population growth and rapid industrial development.

“By 2030, the Sungai Kerian LRA with a capacity of 114 MLD under the Water Contingency Plan 2030 is expected to begin operations to further strengthen supply stability in SPS.

“By 2031, the Perak-Penang Water Project is expected to supply between 300 and 500 MLD of treated water from Perak to SPS, while also supporting Seberang Perai Tengah (SPT),” he said in a statement today.

Pathmanathan said PBAPP, under the leadership of Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow, is implementing sustainable and resilient water supply solutions to ensure sufficient supply and support Penang’s socio-economic development in the 2030s, adding that development should not be limited by water shortages.

He said PBAPP has also operated a RM8.1 million compact LRA in SPS since March last year, producing up to 6.4 MLD of treated water using raw water from Sungai Kerian.

The plant currently supplies about 4,000 users as a temporary measure to meet rising demand over a three-year period.

Based on PBAPP data, SPS has 87,611 registered water users with average consumption of 116.8 MLD in 2025, representing about 13.5 per cent of Penang’s total usage. Demand is expected to rise significantly due to ongoing development.

This includes the RM2.2 billion Batu Kawan Industrial Park 3 (BKIP3), covering about 165 hectares, with projected demand of around 220 MLD in the 2030s.

He added that developments such as SkyWorld Cassia and the proposed Siliconware Precision semiconductor plant will further increase water demand in SPS over the same period.