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PBAPP to lay two main pipelines under Penang water contingency plan to raise supply by 2030



GEORGE TOWN, May 6 — The Penang Water Supply Corporation (PBAPP) will install two 1.8-metre (m) diameter main pipelines to channel more treated water from the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant (WTP) to the Barat Daya district on the island as part of efforts to strengthen water supply by 2030.

PBAPP chief executive officer Datuk K. Pathmanathan said the project is a key component of Phase 3 of the Water Contingency Plan 2030 (WCP 2030), with an estimated total cost of about RM416 million involving pipe procurement, installation works, excavation and road reinstatement works, as well as land acquisition costs.

He said the first pipeline will connect the Sungai Dua WTP to the connection point of the Penang Third Undersea Twin Pipeline Project (3rd PTSP) in Butterworth, involving a route of about 13 kilometres on the mainland.

“The second 1.8m diameter pipeline will connect the 3rd PTSP landing point in the Macallum area to the Bukit Dumbar Reservoir and Pump House Complex over a distance of about 3.9 kilometres on the island at a cost of RM56 million,” he told reporters after inspecting the project site at Solok Tengku here, today.

According to him, the two pipelines are crucial to enable PBAPP to pump more treated water from Sungai Dua to the island, particularly to meet rising demand in the Barat Daya district, which is expected to increase from 202 million litres per day (MLD) this year to 301 MLD by 2030.

Pathmanathan said works for the new pipeline from Macallum to Bukit Dumbar are scheduled to begin this month and are expected to be completed by May 2027 due to technical and logistical constraints involving traffic management and relocation of utilities, such as Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) and telecommunications lines.

“In addition, with the cooperation of the Malaysian Highway Authority (LLM), the Public Works Department (JKR) and local authorities, we are confident these challenges can be overcome and the project completed as soon as possible,” he said.

He said the 3.9-kilometre project will be implemented in two phases due to land acquisition constraints, with the second phase involving about one kilometre crossing Sungai Pinang.

According to him, about 400 million litres of water per day are currently channelled to the island and with the completion of the dedicated pipelines, the capacity can be increased to around 600 million litres per day.

He added that the overall RM2.1 billion WCP 2030 is being implemented to optimise raw water resources, increase water treatment capacity and reduce dependency on the Sungai Dua WTP. — Bernama