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## PBAPP to install two main pipelines to boost water supply in Penang



GEORGE TOWN: The Penang Water Supply Corporation (PBAPP) will install two 1.8m 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 the 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, road reinstatement works, and 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 13km 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 3.9km on the island for RM56 million," he told reporters after inspecting the project site at Solok Tengku here today.

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 next year due to technical and logistical constraints involving traffic management and the relocation of utilities, such as Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) and telecommunications lines.

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

He said the 3.9km 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.