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PRESS STATEMENT

by Dato' Ir. Jaseni Maidinsa, Chief Executive Officer, PBA Holdings Bhd (PBAHB) and Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP)

PENANG IS READY TO TAKE BACK THE EXPANDED MENGKUANG DAM, WITH CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

PENANG, Thursday (22/3/2018): Penang is ready to take back the expanded 73.5 billion litre Mengkuang Dam from the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KeTTHA), with certain conditions:

- 1. KeTTHA will allocate RM100 million for the construction of a new barrage across Sungai Muda at Rantau Panjang, Seberang Prai Utara. The new barrage will replace an existing barrage that was built 46 years ago.
- 2. KeTTHA will construct the originally specified RM80 million Lahar Yooi Pump House under its "Rolling Plan 4". Without this pump house, it will take a long time to fill and refill the expanded Mengkuang Dam.
- 3. KeTTHA will complete the originally specified RM100 million raw water pipeline project from the newly upgraded Mak Sulong Pump House in Seberang Prai Tengah to the Sungai Dua Canal by March 2020. This pipeline, which will be 6.85km long and with a diameter of 1.6 metres, is necessary for the efficient transfer of raw water from the dam to the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant.
- 4. KeTTHA will bear the raw water pumping costs at the Mak Sulong Pump House to completely fill up the Mengkuang Dam.
- 5. KeTTHA will be responsible for the structural integrity of the expanded Mengkuang Dam until it is filled and tested at its highest level of 55 metres. As such, KeTTHA must bear the costs of appointing a contractor to take on rectification works if any defects are detected.



- 6. KeTTHA will hand over the entire Mengkuang Dam Expansion Project (MDEP) project site, together with the newly upgraded Mak Sulong Pump House, to Penang.
- 7. KeTTHA will coordinate, facilitate and mediate talks between Penang and Perak on the proposed Sungai Perak Raw Water Transfer Scheme (SPRWTS). The SPRWTS is urgently needed to ensure water security for both states until Year 2050.
- 8. KeTTHA will undertake to repair all slopes at the dam site, following landslides that occurred on-site in the period September November 2017.
- 9. KeTTHA will undertake to rectify the grass cover on the berms of the dam.

Kindly note that KeTTHA must comply with conditions 1 to 7 before it hands back the expanded Mengkuang Dam and the newly upgraded Mak Sulong Pump House.

As for conditions 8 and 9, KeTTHA must undertake to make good the slopes along the 11km perimeter road around the dam, and the grass on the berms, within a reasonable time, at KeTTHA's cost.

Penang is ready to take back the Mengkuang Dam under these conditions. However, until all the damaged slopes at its site are satisfactorily repaired, this dam must be closed to the public for safety reasons.

Thank You.

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