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Media Release

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SPRWTS DELAY: PBAPP HAS A RAW WATER CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR PENANG

- **While Perak has not made a decision to sell raw water, PBAPP has drafted a plan to mitigate Penang's raw water risks until 2030.**

PENANG, Tuesday, 7.12.2021: As a responsible water supply operator, Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP) has drafted a Raw Water Contingency Plan 2030 (RWCP 2030) to mitigate Penang's raw water risks until 2030.

The RWCP 2030 is part of the Penang Water Supply Initiative 2050 (PWSI 2050). It proposes the implementation of the following 5 key water projects:

Proposed projects		Potential yield MLD (million litres/day)	Projected year of completion
1	Phase 2 Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant (WTP) sedimentation tanks upgrade	91	2022
2	Package 12A, Sungai Dua WTP: additional new water treatment module	114	2023
3	Phase 1 Mengkuang Dam WTP	114	2025
4	Phase 1 Sungai Muda WTP	114	2028
5	New Sungai Perai Water Supply Scheme: pre-treatment process	136	2028
Total Projected Yield		569	

If the PBAPP RWCP 2030 is implemented as planned:

- a. Penang will optimise Sungai Muda as its primary raw water resource; and
- b. Tap 2 new raw water resources: Mengkuang Dam and Sungai Perai.

The potential total yield is an additional 569 MLD of water per day. The availability of this additional volume of water should ensure that Penangites will continue to enjoy good water supply services until 2030.

Penang is still looking forward to the SPRWTS

The proposed implementation of RWCP 2030 **does not** mean that Penang is giving up on the Sungai Perak Raw Water Transfer Scheme (SPRWTS).

Please note that after waiting for 10 years, Penang is still looking forward to the implementation of the SPRWTS.

As reported by *Bernama* and various mass media on 3.12.2021, the Perak State Government has not made a decision on selling raw water to Penang, as proposed under the SPRWTS. Moreover, PBAPP has projected that it will take 7 years to complete and commission the SPRWTS.

The key objective of the RWCP 2030 is to “buy more time” for Penang until the implementation of the SPRWTS.

SPRWTS is the most rational and cost-effective solution

In 2011, the Penang State Government and PBAPP proposed the SPRWTS to the Federal Government as a rational and cost-effective raw water solution for the following key reasons:

- Sungai Perak is the second longest river in Peninsular Malaysia. Yet, its potential as a raw water resource has not been fully tapped. Raw water that may be potentially used for water supply is flowing wastefully into the Straits of Melaka daily.
- The projected yield of the SPRWTS is high: 1,000 – 2,000 MLD.

- The SPRWTS may help to ensure meet Perak and Penang’s raw water needs until 2050. As such, it is “one long-term raw water solution for the benefit of 2 states.”
- Conventional water treatment of raw water from Sungai Perak represents the most cost-effective water supply solution for Perak and Penang. It is significantly cheaper than desalination and will have the least impact on future water tariffs in Perak and Penang.
- The SPRWTS is a raw water resource project. The Federal Government had agreed to finance raw water resource projects for Penang when Penang migrated to the National Water Services Industry Restructuring Initiative (NWSIRI) in 2011.

These key reasons are still valid today. As such, the Penang State Government and PBAPP will continue to pursue the implementation of the SPRWTS because both Penang and Perak will need more water supply to meet the needs of the people in the future.

Thank You.

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