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## Press Statement

by YAB TUAN CHOW KON YEOW

Chief Minister of Penang and Chairman of Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP) and PBA Holdings Bhd (PBAHB).

## **PENANG CM OPENS PBAPP'S "UPDATED" ADMINISTRATION CENTRE IN SUNGAI DUA**

I hereby officially open the updated administration centre in PBAPP's Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant in Seberang Perai Utara (SPU). Work to update this administration centre began in October 2019 and was completed in October 2020. The cost of this project was RM2.73 million.

The Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant administration centre was updated with the following 5 key considerations in mind:

1. The Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant was officially opened by the late Tun Abdul Razak bin Hussein, the second Prime Minister of Malaysia in 1973. Next year, in 2023, we will mark its 50<sup>th</sup> year in service of the State of Penang.
2. The treatment capacity of the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant has been upgraded 7 times since 1973. However, this is the first time that PBAPP has comprehensively updated its administration centre in the past 49 years.
3. The Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant is Penang's most important water asset. Today, it produces more than 80% of the treated water that is supplied throughout Seberang Perai and Penang Island. Accordingly, this plant, including its administration centre, is being managed to comply with the requirements of the following ISO certifications:
  - ISO 9001:2015 for Quality;
  - ISO 45001: 2018 for Occupational Health & Safety;
  - ISO/IEC 27001:2013 for Information Security; and
  - MS ISO/IEC 17025:2005 for Testing Water.

4. This plant must be managed efficiently because it plays a leading role in allowing PBAPP to produce the “cheapest possible” treated water in Penang. It has helped PBAPP to sustain the lowest water tariffs in Malaysia for the majority of Penang’s domestic water consumers who use less than 35,000 litres per month. It also allows PBAPP to offer highly competitive trade water tariffs to factories, hotels and other business operators.
5. PBAPP needs to ensure that the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant continues to operate smoothly and efficiently until 2050. We need this plant to continue to supply a large volume of treated water, using conventional water treatment technology, until we can deploy other technologies, such as desalination, to meet Penang’s future water demand.

In summary, this project to “update” the administration centre of the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant is both necessary and timely.

As you can see, the new facade of the administration plant now projects a more “green” and environment-friendly image. In fact, this “green” image is not only for show. It is backed up by real-world benefits.

A more “open area” has been built to support natural air flow and reduce air-conditioning costs. Natural lighting for various spaces have been optimised to allow more sunlight to enter, thereby reducing on lighting costs.

All tap points and toilet systems in this building have been fitted with water saving devices to promote water saving, in line with PBAPP’s promotion of a water saving culture in a water-stressed state and to reduce wastewater discharges.

PBAPP has also updated this administration centre to house a special lift and toilets for disabled visitors, so that they may safely access all 3 floors easily and comfortably.

Please allow me to reiterate that this is the administration centre of the most important water treatment plant in Penang.

As such, I am pleased to note that the PBAPP has taken into account modern operational requirements, safety considerations, environmental-friendliness, cost-effectiveness and special needs in updating it.

Besides officiating the opening of this centre, I am also here today to review the progress of the “Phase 2 Sedimentation Tanks Upgrade Project” here. When fully commissioned, this project will enable the Sungai Dua WTP to produce more treated water. It must be commissioned before the end of this year on time to alleviate the urgent water supply issues in SPS.

Later, I will also visit the proposed site of Package 12A of the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant which will be expedited to further increase the capacity of this plant by 2023. This project started in March 2022 and I have directed PBAPP to complete this project by December 2023 as scheduled.

Finally, I will visit the state-of-the art PBAPP Central Laboratory that is responsible for continuously sampling and testing water daily. This lab helps to ensure that PBAPP’s treated water is amongst the cleanest, safest and healthiest supplied by a water operator in Malaysia.

It has won 5 consecutive “IKM Excellence Awards” from the Malaysian Institute of Chemistry. The PBAPP Central Laboratory is now planning to offer its services to external clients.

Thank You.

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**PBAPP's new administration centre, Sungai Dua WTP.**