

17.2.2024

Media Release

IR. PATHMANATHAN K.
CEO, PBAHB and PBAPP.

AIDAP 2024 IS “UPHOLDING” EFFECTIVE CAPACITY OF AIR ITAM DAM

- **32.8% on 5.2.2024 to 32.4% on 16.2.2024.**
- **0.4% drop in effective capacity over 11 days: Less than 0.04% per day.**

PENANG, Saturday, 17.2.2024: In the past 11 days, including the peak days of the 2024 Chinese New Year festivities, the effective capacity of the Air Itam Dam has dropped by 0.4% which is less than 0.04% per day.

On 5.2.2024, the effective capacity of the dam was 32.8%. On 16.2.2024, it was 32.4%.

This is due to PBAPP's implementation of the “Air Itam Dam Action Plan 2024” (AIDAP 2024) to uphold the effective capacity of the dam for as long as possible, until the next rainy season.

AIDAP 2024

PBAPP has been implementing the following 4 key water supply engineering contingency measures under the AIDAP 2024:

1. Minimising raw water drawdowns from the Air Itam Dam to the Air Itam Water Treatment Plant (WTP) by 75% daily, from 44 million litres per day (MLD) to 11 MLD.
2. Optimising raw water intake from the Main's Intake and Tat's Intake (the 2 other raw water resources for the Air Itam WTP) at a rate of 6 MLD.
3. Reducing treated water production at the Air Itam WTP by about 66%, from 50 MLD to 17 MLD per day.
4. Pumping 33 MLD of treated water from the Sungai Dua WTP (Seberang Perai) into the service area of the Air Itam WTP. This measure is making up for the 33 MLD shortfall in treated water output from the Air Itam WTP.

The river level of Sungai Muda was relatively “healthy” at 2.02m on 16.2.2024. The capacities of the Muda Dam and Beris Dam that release water into Sungai Muda were reportedly 74.8% and 100% respectively.

Barring mishaps, PBAPP should be able to safely sustain its AIDAP 2024 contingency measures for the next 30 to 60 days.

VERY HOT & DRY WEATHER

As announced earlier, PBAPP conceptualised the AIDAP 2024 to gradually increase the effective capacity of the Air Itam Dam, by drawing down less water than the average inflow into the dam.

However, with only 1.5mm of rainfall since 1.2.2024 and temperatures soaring up to 36°C, the average inflow of water into the Air Itam Dam is less than normal. Instead of 15 MLD, the dam inflow has been fluctuating between 10 and 12 MLD from the dam’s 3 intakes: the Balik Pulau, Side Stream and Sungai Pinang West intakes.

As a result of this, the dam’s effective capacity dropped marginally by 0.4% in the period from 5.2.2024 to 16.2.2024.

PLEASE USE LESS WATER

While PBAPP is doing its best to provide continuous good water supply services in Air Itam, we also seek the kind cooperation and support of water consumers to use water wisely.

By using less water, consumers in Air Itam will help to defend the dam that serves them and their community. As such, we appeal to Air Itam water consumers to kindly:

- Avoid using a hose as much as possible.
- Wash their cars and motorcycles less often.
- Water their gardens and plants with watering cans instead of a hose.
- Clean their homes, front yards and back yards with a broom, a mop or a vacuum cleaner instead of spraying water with a hose.

For more water saving tips, please visit: www.pba.com.my.

CLOUD SEEDING: FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

PBAPP has written to the National Water Services Commission (SPAN) to seek assistance for cloud seeding operations that will induce more rainfall in the water catchment areas for the 5 intakes that provide raw water for the Air Itam Dam and the Air Itam WTP.

As we understand it, SPAN has referred this matter to Chief Secretary of the Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation (PETRA). We are awaiting further feedback from SPAN and/or the ministry.

We will continue to provide updates on the status of the Air Itam Dam, AIDAP 2024 and cloud seeding initiatives in 2024.

Thank You.

Issued by : Syarifah Nasywa bt Syed Feisal Barakbah
Corporate Communications Unit
Email : syarifah@pba.com.my



16.2.2024 | PBAPP Air Itam Dam Effective Capacity at 32.4%



16.2.2024 | PBAPP Air Itam Dam Effective Capacity at 32.4%