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Media Release

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REMINDER: NO FISHING IN PENANG DAMS AND WATER WAYS.

- **PBAPP has found evidence of illegal fishing activity at the Bukit Panchor Dam in Seberang Perai Selatan (SPS) recently.**
- **Fishing is not allowed in 62.9 km² of water catchment areas (WCAs) under a Penang State Legislation. WCAs include dam water surface areas, canals and intakes.**

PENANG, Thursday, 13.11.2025: PBAPP Polis Bantuan personnel will detain any person(s) who fishes illegally at any of Penang's raw water dams and/or trespasses into restricted areas at or near PBAPP water supply installations.

On 11.11.2025, PBAPP personnel uncovered evidence of illegal fishing activities at the Bukit Panchor Dam in Seberang Perai Selatan (SPS). So far, no one has been identified or detained.

The Bukit Panchor Dam is the smallest operational water supply dam in Penang. It is not open to the public and is located in a restricted area. Raw water from the dam is drawn down daily to produce treated water at the 21 million litre per day (MLD) Bukit Panchor Water Treatment Plant. The treated water is supplied to nearby SPS neighbourhoods.

PBAPP Polis Bantuan personnel has tightened security in Bukit Panchor. They have also upgraded surveillance and patrol activities in, and around, this PBAPP water supply installation. Any person caught fishing illegally or trespassing will be handed over to the police for further action.

Penang's water catchment areas are "protected"

The Water Supply (Catchment Area) Order 2009 (under the Penang Water Supply Enactment 2004) limits eco-friendly recreational activities to areas downstream of the raw water intakes in Penang's water catchment areas (WCAs).

WCAs include dam water surface areas that "catch rainwater" for storage. As such, fishing may only be allowed in areas "below" or "after" the dam.

The primary rationale for the “no fishing” rule is to minimise risks of dam water pollution and/or contamination. Keeping the WCAs and dam areas protected, safe and clean helps to ensure good quality water supply.

This state legislation also supports public safety. Dam waters are usually deep to maximise raw water storage capacity. For example, the maximum depth of the Teluk Bahang Dam is 48m (157.5 ft) while the maximum depth of the Bukit Panchor Dam is 7.32m (24 ft).

As such, fishing or angling is clearly not allowed in any dam managed by PBAPP without prior permission from the CEO’s Office.

Please report unusual activities at dams

Green recreational areas within the premises of the Air Itam Dam, Teluk Bahang Dam and Expanded Mengkuang Dam are open to the public daily. This is a key PBAPP corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiative that benefits thousands of visitors every day.

PBAPP seeks the cooperation of dam visitors to kindly report any unusual activity in the dams, such as fishing, swimming, bathing, foot dipping or any other form of dangerous encroachments into or near dam water surfaces.

If possible, please use a mobile device to shoot a photo or video. Share the image or video with PBAPP Polis Bantuan personnel at the nearest security post.

Please use the “open dam environments” responsibly to avoid unnecessary mishaps or accidents. At the same time, please help PBAPP to sustain clean water supply services in Penang, on a 24/7 basis.

Let us keep Penang’s dams functional, open and safe.

Thank You.

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