Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd
199901001061 (475961-X)
Memenuhi segala keperluan bekalan air anda
Meeting all your water supply needs

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Media Release

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PENANG WATER SUPPLY: FOCUS ON THE FACTS & FIGURES

- **Water Contingency Plan 2030, Perak-Penang Water Project 2032 and proposed future desalination projects are responses to a projected 27.2% increase in consumption, climate change and Sungai Muda risks.**

PENANG, Tuesday, 24.11.2026: PBAPP is fast-tracking major water projects now to ensure the availability and stability of sufficient water supply to support Penang's future growth.

The rationales behind the implementation of the Water Contingency Plan 2030 (WCP 2030), Perak-Penang Water Project 2032 (P-PWP 2032) and proposed strategic desalination plans are:

1. **Small land area:** Penang occupies a land area of only 1,158 km^2. Looking ahead, we do not have sufficient in-state raw freshwater resources to support continuing rapid economic growth in the 2030s, let alone address the threat of climate change.

2. **Sungai Muda risks and challenges:** Sungai Muda is Penang's primary raw water resource. Since 2025, this river is being tapped more heavily in Kedah for irrigation purposes due to Kedah's migration to the "5 Seasons in 2 Years Padi Cultivation Programme". Moreover, PBAPP has had to implement its Sungai Muda Crisis Management Plan since 2024 to avoid river mishaps in Kedah from affecting water supply to more than 450,000 water consumers in Penang.

3. **Projected water consumption:** In 2025, Penang's water consumption was 865 MLD. Feedback from the manufacturing sector, property developers, PDC and PERDA indicate that water consumption will increase by at least 27.2% to 1,100 MLD by 2032.

4. **Climate change:** Global climate change has made annual rainfall in Penang's water catchment areas less predictable. PBAPP has had to implement the Air Itam Dam Action Plan (AIDAP) and D3PI (Double Dam Defence on Penang Island) all year-round to ensure that the Air Itam Dam and Teluk Bahang Dam do not run dry.

These facts and figures reflect the reality of the water challenges that Penang faces today and towards the future.

As the licensed water supply operator that serves Penang, PBAPP is compelled to respond to these challenges through its Penang Water Supply Roadmap 2040 (PWSR 2040). The key milestones in this roadmap are:

- Completion of all the WCP 2030 projects to increase in-state treated water production capacity by a total of 602 MLD, commission of 4 new water treatment plants (WTPs) in Seberang Perai and pump more water to Penang Island from the Sungai Dua WTP.

- Purchasing 300 – 500 MLD of treated water from Perak, through the inter-state P-PWP 2032, in order to supply more water in Seberang Perai Selatan and Seberang Perai Tengah and secure a second major water resource for Penang.

- Introduction of seawater desalination projects at strategic locations in the 2030s to ensure that Penang's water supply becomes more "weather-proof" and resilient in the future.

Water Conservation: Support and Cooperation

There is another important fact and some figures that we have to bear in mind:

Despite Penang's water challenges and water-stressed status, our per capita domestic consumption figure was 267 litres/capita/day (LCD) in 2025. In comparison, the national average for 2025 was 225 litres, or 18.7% lower. Singapore reported 141 LCD for 2025.

In short, an average Penangite consumed more water at home in 2025, when compared to an average Malaysian or Singaporean.

Accordingly, PBAPP will continue to work with the mass media to encourage more people to be more "water-active" in Penang.

Being more water-active means being more aware of Penang's water status, using water more wisely at home, saving money off household water bills and helping to achieve the state target of 250 LCD for 2026.

A reduction of 17 LCD per day by all Penang domestic water consumers translates into a potential water saving of 30.6 MLD. This 30.6 MLD could very well make a difference between a water shortage or water sufficiency for all homes and businesses during a prolonged dry spell in Penang.

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It is not difficult for Penang water consumers to use water wisely at home. We seek their kind cooperation to adopt the household water saving tips published on the www.pba.com.my website.

Thank You.

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