

Press Release

TWO ORGANISATIONS RECEIVED AQUA SAVE CERTIFICATES FOR THEIR WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS

Penang, 25/02/14: Penang Chief Minister Y.A.B. Lim Guan Eng today presented Aqua Save certificates to two organization for their support in water conservation and cultivating a water saving society at their premises.

The two companies are Osram Opto Semiconductors (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd and Cradotex (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd.

Y.A.B. Lim Guan Eng said Penang needed more water-friendly organisations because its water consumption was increasing too rapidly for a state that was highly dependent on a “shared” raw water resource – the Muda River. Both Penang and Kedah draw water from this river daily.

“In the age of global climate change, we do not know when the next drought will be. We do not know if we would face water shortage in the near future. With this in mind, PBAPP has identified another water resource for Penang – Sungai Perak.

“With Penang’s successful migration to the National Water Services Re-structuring Initiative, the costs of this raw water transfer project will be borne by the Federal Government,” he said.

The state government welcomes every move to promote water conservation. Many quarters recommend Penang or in particular, Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP) to increase or to review water tariff, but we decided to go for water conservation surcharge for domestic consumer and water conservation program or Aqua Save for non-domestic consumers.

Aqua Save encourages the applicants to look into its water efficiency approaches and emphasizes on how they engage the involvement of their staff and workers. Water conservation effort will eventually translate into money saving and benefit the society as a whole. So, we hope all organizations will support the effort by the state government and PBAPP by becoming “water-friendly” organizations.

The total water consumption in Penang has increased tremendously since 1999. Penangites, used 302 liters of water per person per day at home in 2013; as compared to 155 liters in Singapore and 165 liters as recommended by the United Nations.

“We can explore new water resources or build more infrastructures to meet the increasing demand of water but that will have an impact, economically and environmentally. The consumers of Penang will have to pay more. As a responsible government and PBAPP as a responsible organization, we want to avoid this from happening.

We believe the introduction of a water conservation surcharge and Aqua Save program will encourage wiser usage of water in Penang. Our aim is to reduce water wastage and to remain sustainable,” he added.

Aqua Save was initiated by PBAPP in collaboration with the Penang State Government; this programme promotes wise water usage amongst Penang-based organisations and rewards them for effective water saving initiatives.

The programme rewards “water-friendly” organisations with a “green” award and a certificate that they may use to promote themselves. Participation is open to all businesses, industrial companies, hotels, education institutions, government departments and non-government organisations. Interested parties may download an application form from the pba.com.my website.

-ends-