

17th February 2016

PRESS STATEMENT by Dato' Ir. Jaseni Maidinsa, Chief Executive Officer, PBA Holdings Bhd (PBAHB) and Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP)

PENANG WATER SUPPLY STATUS 'STABLE' FOR NOW

PENANG, Wednesday, 17/2/2016: As of today, Penang's water supply status remains 'stable' but Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP) will remain vigilant due to the Meteorological Department's 'Super El Nino' warnings.

With the proper planning and implementation of prudent PBAPP water supply engineering practices, the effective capacities of Penang's major dams have been sustained at 'healthy levels', as at 16th February 2016:

Air Itam Dam : 85.3%Teluk Bahang Dam : 79.1%

Meanwhile, the water level at Sungai Muda was at 2.83 metres yesterday.

In general, since the period leading up to the Chinese New Year season, PBAPP has been drawing water from Sungai Muda for treatment at the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant. We have been minimising dependency on the strategic drought reserves stored in the Air Itam Dam and Teluk Bahang Dam.

Nevertheless, we cannot be complacent. Since 1st January 2016, the effective capacity of the Air Itam Dam has dropped by about 4%, while the effective capacity of the Teluk Bahang Dam has gone down by 5%.



Even with the presence of the 'Super El Nino' phenomena for the period 1st January – 16th February 2016, our rain gauges have recorded the following amounts of rainfall in the catchment areas of Penang's dams:

Air Itam Dam : 122 mm
Teluk Bahang Dam : 172 mm
Mengkuang Dam : 347 mm

Although rainfall has helped to replenish dam reserves lost to evaporation and to balance off increases in water consumption on hot and sunny days, let us not take things for granted. We must ensure that our dams can continue to store more than sufficient water until the April showers arrive.

As such, we continue to seek the cooperation of the public to use less water in order to ensure the sustainability of our water supply. Please visit www.pba.com.my for water saving tips.

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