

26th March 2018

PRESS STATEMENT

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

MAK SULONG PUMP HOUSE HAS NOT BEEN TESTED AND COMMISSIONED

PENANG, Mon (26/3/2018): The Mak Sulong Pump House has not been handed back to Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP) by the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KeTTHA) because it has not been tested and commissioned.

KeTTHA had undertaken works to upgrade the pump house as part of the Mengkuang Dam Expansion Project (MDEP). These works were originally scheduled for completion in November 2016 but were only completed in May 2017.

However, until today, no commissioning test certificate has been issued for the Mak Sulong Pump House. The commissioning test certificate is like an OC for a housing project that has been completed. Without this certificate, KeTTHA cannot hand over the pump house to PBAPP.

As such, the allegation attributed to the Penanti State Assemblywoman (published in *Berita Harian* on 25/3/2018) stating that PBAPP had "caused floods" by not taking back the Mak Sulong Pump House earlier is misleading and unreasonable.

Meanwhile, kindly note that KeTTHA had earlier agreed to 6 of the 9 conditions mentioned by PBAPP for the handing over of the expanded Mengkuang Dam. The 3 remaining conditions for KeTTHA to agree upon are:

- KeTTHA will be responsible for the structural integrity of the expanded Mengkuang Dam until it is filled and tested at its highest level of 55 metres. As such, KeTTHA must bear the costs of appointing a contractor to take on rectification works if any defects are detected.

- KeTTHA will undertake to repair all slopes at the dam site, following landslides that occurred on-site in the period September – November 2017.
- KeTTHA will undertake to rectify the grass cover on the berms of the dam.

Penang is ready to take back the Mengkuang Dam from KeTTHA, as and when KeTTHA agrees to these 3 remaining conditions.

Please note that PBAPP's main priority is to ensure water supply security towards 2050 and “No Water Rationing”.

Accordingly, PBAPP must ensure that the entire MDEP project, including all associated works, are completed as specified and in good order. It is our responsibility to make sure that the dam can function properly as Penang’s largest strategic drought reserve.

Thank You.

Dato’ Ir. Jaseni Maidinsa,
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