

No Water Tariff Increase In Penang This Year - PBAPP

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GEORGE TOWN, Sept 14 (Bernama) -- There will be no water tariff increase in Penang this year, said Penang Water Supply Corporation (PBAPP) chief executive officer Datuk Jaseni Maidinsa.

He said PBAPP was not applying for a water tariff increase in 2017.

"The water conservation surcharge (WCS) review is not a water tariff review but a penalty that is applicable to domestic consumers who use too much water at home. The WCS encourages domestic water conservation in Penang and it is a green initiative to reduce wastewater discharge," he said in a press conference, here today.

Jaseni said PBAPP was still awaiting for an approval of the WCS review that would only affect 23 per cent of domestic consumers who use more than 35,000 litres per month.

He said PBAPP's 2017 WCS review application was submitted on April 28 and they were still awaiting approval from the National Water Services Commission (SPAN).

Meanwhile, Jaseni said there has been no incidence of water rationing in Penang.

He said in the past three years, due to climate change, PBAPP has been pumping treated water at higher pressures from the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant to ensure that there was no water rationing during the dry seasons and to meet increasing water demand.

"While non-revenue water (NRW) management is important, the number one priority for PBAPP today is no water rationing in the face of climate change.

"That said, PBAPP is already implementing ongoing NRW management solutions such as installing pressure reducing valves to implement pressure management. We are also implementing pipe replacement and meter replacement projects," he said.

-- BERNAMA