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PRESS RELEASE:

TWO ASEAN ENGINEERING AWARDS FOR PBAPP

PENANG, Thursday, 26/11/2015: Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP) received two awards at the closing dinner of the 33rd Conference of the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (CAFEO) last night.

ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (AFEO) Engineering Award

The 'ASEAN Outstanding Engineering Achievement Project Award' (2015) was conferred upon PBAPP for its engineering achievements at the Sungai Dua Water Treatment Plant (Sungai Dua WTP) in Seberang Perai.

This award recognises outstanding engineering achievements in ASEAN countries. Its citation states: 'The basis for this award shall be an engineering achievement that demonstrates outstanding engineering skills, that have made a significant contribution to the engineering process and the quality of life in ASEAN.'

PBAPP and PBA Holdings Bhd (PBAHB) Chief Executive Officer Dato' Ir. Jaseni Maidinsa said water supply engineering developments in the Sungai Dua WTP had supported Penang's phenomenal socio-economic growth in the past 41 years.

"The Sungai Dua WTP was commissioned in 1973. Since then, its maximum treatment capacity has been expanded 9-fold (900%), from 136 MLD (million litres per day) to 1,228 MLD by end-2015.

"In 1973, there was only one water treatment module in the Sungai Dua WTP. Today, there are five operational treatment modules in the plant. A sixth module is coming online soon," he said.

Dato' Ir. Jaseni said PBAPP had also improved treatment efficiency by 530% with the introduction of stainless steel 'lamella' plate technology. "By employing this technology, we have also extended the maintenance cycle of the sedimentation tanks to six months as compared to one month in 1973," he added. "As such, we are saving time, money and water."

He said PBAPP records showed that Penang's average daily consumption of treated water has increased by 569.62%, from 142.80 MLD in 1973 to 813.42 MLD in 2014.

"More than 80% of Penang's treated water comes from the Sungai Dua WTP today. Its expansion has also helped Penang to record one of the highest treated water reserve margins in the country, as noted by National Water Services Commission (SPAN) CEO Dato' Mohd. Ridhuan bin Ismail on 19th November 2015," he said.

“This high water reserve margin reflects good water security for Penang,” Dato’ Ir. Jaseni said, adding that PBAPP would continue to expand the Sungai Dua WTP, with a view to further enhance its output and efficiency for the future.

“In fact, this ‘ASEAN Outstanding Engineering Achievement Project Award’ honours the good work of many dedicated Penang water supply engineers and technicians since 1973.

“The late Dato’ Ir. Kam U-Tee and Dato’ Ir. Lee Yow Ching, the general managers of Pihak Berkuasa Air (PBA), laid the foundations on which we continue to build upon today. Dato’ Ir. Liew Chook San, the previous general manager of PBAPP, set us on the right path towards professional 21st Century water management in Penang,” he said.

“Most importantly, this award belongs to everyone in the PBAPP family who continuously work as a team. It will inspire us to continue upholding the fine tradition of ensuring good water supply in Penang,” he added.

ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (AFEO) Honorary Member Award

The second AFEO award for PBAPP is the conferment of the ‘AFEO Honorary Member’ upon Dato’ Ir. Jaseni. This award is given to persons ‘who have rendered outstanding services to the engineering profession, the institution and/or the nation.’

Dato’ Ir. Jaseni has served in PBA, PBAPP and PBAHB for 30 years. To date, highlights in his career include:

- facilitating the protection of 62.9 sq. km of green forestlands in Penang that are now gazetted as water catchments;
- managing the construction and completion of the Teluk Bahang Dam;
- overseeing the construction of PBAHB’s joint-venture water treatment plant project in Yichun City, Jiangxi Province, China;
- winning the international ‘WaterLinks Award for Best Water Operator Partnership’ for PBAPP, in partnership with PDAM Tirta Musi Palembang, for NRW management and capacity building in 2011;
- receiving the inaugural ‘Water Operator of the Year’ and ‘Efficiency Award’ from the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KeTTHA) on PBAPP’s behalf in 2013; and
- promoting various sustainable water supply management and water conservation initiatives in Penang and Malaysia.

The AFEO is a non-government body formed by engineering organisations representing 10 ASEAN countries - Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Brunei, Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia and Lao PDR. About 1,000 delegates attended the CAFEO 33 in Penang, held from 22nd to 26th November 2015.

Issued by
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