

30<sup>th</sup> October 2017

## **PRESS STATEMENT**

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

## **PROPOSAL TO INSTALL WATER SAVING DEVICES IN ALL NEW DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN PENANG**

- **Mandatory installation of water saving devices (WSDs) supports Penang's "No Water Rationing" policy and a "Greener and Cleaner Penang".**

PENANG, Monday (30/10/2017): Water saving devices (WSDs) save water "automatically" should be installed in all new development projects in Penang.

This move will support Penang's "No Water Rationing" policy by reducing water consumption, especially during dry seasons. At the same time, it also supports a "Cleaner and Greener Penang" by sustaining water supply sufficiency and reducing wastewater discharges.

WSDs include tap equipment, shower heads, toilet fittings and urinal fixtures.

- Water saving taps and shower heads are equipped with flow regulators that reduce water flow.
- Water saving toilet cisterns have features such as "dual flush" systems that enable "half flushes" (3 litres) and "full flushes" (6 litres).
- Water saving urinals are equipped with "timer" and/or "spring" triggers that minimise water use while flushing.

Please note that such WSDs are already in use in "water-friendly" premises in Penang, such as public toilets in major shopping malls, as well as some factories and office complexes.

Other WSDs include washing machines and dishwashers that are certified to be “water-friendly”.

## CONVENIENT “AUTOMATIC” WATER SAVING

WSDs are designed to automatically save water, without requiring the user to change his/her daily lifestyle routines and water usage habits. Usage of wash basins, bathrooms and toilets remain the same, but water consumption is reduced with each use.

Perbadanan Bekalan Air Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd (PBAPP) has installed various types of WSDs in its buildings since 2012. PBAPP has found that WSDs can effectively reduce water consumption by between 14% and 87%.

*Please refer to “Appendix A” for a table that summarises PBAPP’s findings.*

WSD installation has been acknowledged as one of the most effective water conservation measures worldwide. Countries such as Australia, Hong Kong, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the USA actively promote WSDs. In Malaysia, the National Water Services Commission (SPAN) has introduced a voluntary WSD labelling programme.

## PROPOSAL TO THE PENANG STATE GOVERNMENT

PBAPP has submitted an official proposal to the Penang State Government dated 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

Our proposal calls for amendments to the “Uniform Building By-Laws (State of Penang) 1986” to make it mandatory for the developers of all new development projects to install WSDs in their projects.

Following these amendments to the by-laws, the Penang City Council (MBPP) and the Seberang Prai Municipal Council (MPSP) may then enforce this regulation that promotes water saving on a large-scale and long-term basis in Penang.

## RATIONALE FOR MANDATORY WSD INSTALLATIONS

PBAPP’S proposal to push for the mandatory installation of WSDs in all new development projects are based on the following rationale:

- Penang is a water-stressed state with only one primary raw water resource (Sungai Muda), and logging in the Ulu Muda Water Catchment Area in Kedah is affecting the quantity and quality of water available from Sungai Muda.
- The Federal Government has delayed the Sungai Perak Raw Water Transfer Scheme (SPRWTS) and this increases the risk of a water shortage with increasing water consumption every year.
- Penang needs to lower its per capita domestic consumption. Last year, Penang recorded 286 litres/capita/day (l/c/d), the highest per capita domestic consumption statistic in Malaysia in 2016. The national average was 209 l/c/d.
- Climate change is affecting rainfall patterns and the availability of raw water from Sungai Muda and Penang's dams.
- Penang is the only state that has set a "No Water Rationing" directive to protect the interests of its people and the businesses that operate here.

Penang must continue to avoid a water crisis and sustain water supply sufficiency until the SPRWTS comes online.

The installation of WSDs will promote a water saving culture in Penang "automatically". The people and businesses can actively contribute towards water conservation, without major adjustments to routines and lifestyles.

Thank You.

Dato' Ir. Jaseni Maidinsa,  
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## APPENDIX A:

“Water savings”, as recorded by PBAPP, following the installation of WSDs in PBAPP buildings since 2012.

Type of Fittings	BEFORE (litres per minute)	AFTER (litres per minute)	% <b>Water Savings</b>
Basin Tap	12 - 16	Self-shutting type: 2	<b>83 - 87%</b>
		Tip touch type: 6	<b>50 - 63%</b>
Bib Tap	12 - 15	5	<b>58 - 67%</b>
Shower Head	14 - 20	12	<b>14 - 40%</b>
Sink Tap	12 - 18	6	<b>50 - 67%</b>