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KERATAN AKHBAR

Swift action by Luas prevented water disruption



State Tourism, Environment and Green Technology, and Orang Asli Affairs Committee Exco chairman Hee Loy Sian said the water pollution was detected at 11am, following a fire incident involving a plastic warehouse in Sungai Bakau, Rawang. - Pic credit Facebook LUAS

SHAH ALAM: The Selangor Water Management Authority's (Luas) swift action to resolve water pollution at Sungai Gong in Rawang yesterday saved Klang Valley residents from enduring another unscheduled water disruption.

State Tourism, Environment and Green Technology, and Orang Asli Affairs Committee Exco chairman Hee Loy Sian said the water pollution was detected at 11am, following a fire incident involving a plastic warehouse in Sungai Bakau, Rawang.

LEMBAGA URUS AIR SELANGOR
(UNIT KORPORAT)

"Based on the information, the Rawang Fire and Rescue Department received a distress call over the incident at 3am, and the operation ended at 4pm.

"Luas detected wastewater from the fire incident, which was foamy and smelt soapy, had entered the nearby drain and subsequently into Sungai Gong.

"Luas then activated the Yellow Code based on Selangor's Water Resources Pollution Emergency Manual to conduct a thorough investigation on potential areas at risk that could cause the Rantau Panjang Water Treatment Plan to suspend operations," he said in a statement.

Hee added the estimated distance from the location of the incident to the Rantau Panjang inlet was 13km, with a travel time of nine hours, for the pollution to reach the inlet.

He said odour sampling was carried out at two locations; in Sungai Sembah and Sungai Selangor, with the odour reading at 0 TON (Threshold Odour Number) at 2.30pm.

"However, an increase in odour reading to 1 TON was detected at 6.30pm at Sungai Sembah.

"Luas then placed seven bags of activated carbons in the drain heading to Sungai Bakau as a pollution preventive control measure.

"Luas also activated the pond water pumping operation at Bestari Jaya and the Hybrid Off-River Augmentation System (Horas) 600 with a total capacity of 1070 JLH (litres/day) at 6.30pm to help the river dilution factor."

Hee said follow-up mitigation measures and close monitoring with static monitoring at Sungai Sembah were done, with the odour reading at 0 TON at 9.30pm.

"There were no further disruptions to the operations at the Rantau Panjang Water Treatment Plan and Sungai Selangor Water Treatment Plants (SSP1, SSP2, and SSP3)."

Hee said the Selangor government is always committed in ensuring the sustainability of water resources in the state and cautioned all to be concerned over sensitive areas of the state's water resources, especially the rivers.

"Conservation of water resources is a shared responsibility. As such, cooperation from all parties is highly expected."