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KERATAN AKHBAR



Broken home appliances among items found at the site.

Unlicensed scrap metal processing facility near Sg Langat to be demolished

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A FACILITY that has been processing scrap metal illegally near Sungai Langat in Kajang, Selangor, for the past eight years will be demolished.

Located in Bandar Mahkota Cheras, the illegal operation was uncovered during a joint enforcement exercise led by Kajang Municipal Council (MPKj).

State tourism, environment, green technology and Orang Asli affairs committee chairman Hee Loy Sian said the authorities would also check the status of the site.

"This site may be river reserve land.

"I instructed the authorities to check on that.

"In the meantime, I have

instructed them to tear down the built structures," he said, adding that the authorities would also confiscate the machinery from the site.

Hee, who is also Kajang assemblyman, said there was a possibility that someone with connection to the authorities could be involved in the illegal operation.

He expressed concern that the facility could discharge hazardous waste into Sungai Langat.

"We will not compromise when it comes to activities that can pollute our water sources," he said, adding that the problem could worsen during rainy season.

MPKj Zone 3 councillor Lim Kim Eng said the authorities had to discuss the demolition of the facility.

She said the facility's operation was detected early this year and that the council acted on a com-

plaint made last month.

A check by *StarMetro* found the site filled with piles of scrap metal, including broken home appliances, alongside domestic rubbish.

Several vehicles were also found, believed to have been used to transport the discarded items.

A worker in the area, who declined to be named, said mosquitoes had increased there due to pockets of stagnant water.

"We had found snakes too, in the past.

"The site also emitted a stench, especially after downpours," he said.

Also present during the enforcement exercise were personnel from Hulu Langat Land and District Office, Selangor Environment Department and Selangor Water Management Authority.